BACK PAGE

Women talk for three days without any concrete results

Is woman's image as presented by the mass-media a reality or an illusion? This was the question that was asked at a meeting of the National Central Organisation for Political Education at the Eichholz Academy.

The eighty participants were representatives of women's associations and educational institutes as well as women journalists. The conference lasted three days during which the participants managed successfully to dodge the issue!

It was not all that easy even for the *avantgarde* of Federal Republic women to view the image of modern woman as she is presented by the mass-media through the welter of lectures, talks, discussions and films. Finding a framework in which the picture of the woman of the seventies could be presented was not made easy for them.

Even the vital opening question was unanswered — what woman should be discussed, the thirty year-old, the forty year-old or the woman in her fifties? The housewife and mother? The working mother? The woman who has produced her family and is now contemplating going back to work?

Were the women of the "working-class" meant? Or "middle-class" women? Or perhaps women who have already achieved a fair degree of emancipation in modern society.

Right from the first day the discussion centred more on the subject that everyone wanted to discuss — women's emancipation — than the actual topic presented for discussion.

All the women speakers took up their stance at the beginning of the meeting in that they themselves questioned the general validity of the theses they presented and were only prepared to make "personal aphoristic observations".

So it is hardly surprising that the women veered from the beaten track and never really got back to its again. Helene Rahms of the newspaper *Frankfurter Allgemeine* spoke on "Women as they are portrayed in the press". Waltraud Schmidtz-Bunse from the WDR radio and television station missed the theme entirely with her contribution "Radio for women". And Helga Mauersberger fron NDR, north-German radio and television, added little to the billed programme with her lecture "Television's portrayal of women".

Unanimity was only reached on one side issue, namely that special women's pages in newspapers and broadcasts for women on radio and television were undesirable.

Even then the meeting could not agree that they should be abolished forthwith, since there is still a need for information for women on things such as household equipment and cosmetics. Furthermore privileges that are denied women must be broadcast and written about until all women are prepared to learn a trade or profession, even if this is only a diploma in good housekeeping or family budgeting!

The accusation that the theme of the meeting had been taken too generally and that those taking part had been isolated in a kind of ghetto was answered by representatives of the National Central Organisation for Political Education, who said that this had simply been intended as a preparatory talk for further symposiums at present still in the planning stage. The next time, the women were assured, men would be invited.

This opportunity for airing general grievances was seized eagerly by the participants in one of the working groups.

In this group two "pictures" were formed from advertising texts in the issue of the women's magazine *Brigitte* in which the series "Die Freiheit der Frau" (Women's freedom) began.

The women, painted by advertisers who, they claim, buy their products, are, according to Lore Breuer of the Friedrich Naumann Foundation, (among other things, of course) "slim, trim, beautiful, well-groomed, with firm breasts and a flat tummy. They have a transparent shimmering skin which has a pleasant odour and her beauty is embalmed with elegant and natural make-up. Her skin is soft as velvet and kept that way with moisturising creams."

"The stupid wench who does not buy the products on offer remains podgy and shapeless with unsightly layers of subcutaneous fat. She has overactive fat glands and lank, greasy hair."

Is a woman the puppet of the advertiser? One dozen ladies and two gentlemen were opposed to this idea and lodged a resolution to be put before the Federal Republic Women's Council.

It is worded: "We move that the Women's Council should take action to prevent the misuse of women in advertising. The working committee has come to the undeniable conclusion that the picture of womankind presented by advertisers is false. Advertising is necessary but it is not essential to degrade women simply in order to increase sales. The Federal Republic Women's Council should take up this matter immediately and plan a campaign using the most modern methods."

There are still two questions to be asked. What must be given more treatment — securing equal pay for the same job for both sexes, or getting a ban imposed on advertisements for cars using naked women to catch the eye?

In other words, what is more important, discussions on how women can make their importance felt or the image of woman as presented by the mass media?

The disappointment that this meeting caused results from the high expectations before it began.

Karin v. Be...

(DIE WELT, 27 January 1971)

Women at work

Of every 100 women over 40

Were never at work 10

Are still at work 37

Have left 53

The German Tribune

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Moscow deliberately clouds Ostpolitik issues

DEUTSCHES ALLGEMEINES SONNTAGSBLATT

The Russians are enamoured of political ambiguity, maybe because they prefer to keep the other side in the dark as to their real intentions and are loath to commit themselves too soon.

It may on the other hand also be due to in-fighting among the Soviet leadership such as occurs from time to time in other countries too, possibly between hawks and doves on this occasion.

The correction and denials that followed the strange interview given to an American journalist by a Soviet embassy official immediately after the ambassador's return from Moscow are typical of Soviet tactics.

What they mean is that the Soviet Union would like to counteract the conviction current in Western capitals that the Russians think so much of the Treaty with Bonn that they might be prepared to fulfill in entirety the "wishes of the West Berliners," to quote First Secretary Brezhnov's Erivan speech, and meet in full the demands made by the three Western Allies in the Four-Power talks on Berlin.

The intention is to make it clear that Moscow has time, perhaps more time than the likely life-span of the Brandt-Scheel government.

For Chancellor Brandt this would be a shot across the bows, not to mention a personal affront. It would be for the Americans too, since despite differences of opinion Bonn's policy of coming to terms with the East is by and large an important component of Washington's worldwide policy of detente.

Before considering an appropriate Western response, not to mention an appropriate reaction on this country's part, it would be as well to wonder whether the goals the Russians had in mind with their last year's policy towards this country might have become of less interest to Moscow as a result of recent developments of any kind.

The first of these goals was stabilisation of the status quo, that is to say, of Soviet power in Central Europe. Anxiety about future developments in the Far East in view of Peking's rapidly growing power may well have been one motive among others behind this aim.

The second was technological and economic cooperation with the West, particularly this country, with the aim of reducing the gap between the Soviet Union and the West in certain sectors of the economy.

A background factor in both instances is the realisation, to which the United States has also come, that nuclear war is unlikely to occur.

There is no reason to assume that these goals are no longer worth striving for as far as the Kremlin is concerned. The unrest in Poland could well have added fuel to the fire of Soviet anxiety about the internal stability of Moscow's sphere of influence in Central Europe, though.

As a result the continual warnings against a Berlin settlement satisfactory to Bonn made by Walter Ulbricht will have assumed greater importance.

The Russians may also be a little disappointed that their hopes of economic and technological cooperation are proving so slow to be fulfilled.

Prior to ratification of the Moscow Treaty this is only natural but the Russians appear not always to have been clear in their own minds about the close connection between the Berlin question and cooperation of this kind.

This is not enough to make a fundamental change in Soviet policy toward this country appear probable, however. If anything it adds weight to warnings against succumbing to illusions about the true nature of the Kremlin's policy towards this country.

For any number of reasons Moscow will do its best to gain as much as possible for itself and for the GDR in the Four-Power Berlin talks. But this can hardly come as a surprise to anyone.

So nothing would be more dangerous at the present juncture than to become nervous and to show readiness to make concessions on Berlin that in the final analysis will only add to doubts as to the point of the Moscow Treaty and in the long run and in the event of future inevitable disappointments and crises only nullify it.

This country pointed out to the Kremlin prior to the signing of the Moscow Treaty that there was a close link with a Berlin settlement. Bonn formally announced in speeches and writing that the Treaty would not be ratified until the conclusion of a satisfactory agreement on Berlin.

The Russians signed the Treaty in full awareness of these provisos. The Kremlin can hardly seriously intend torpedoing the Treaty on their account.

It is no longer up to the government alone to pass judgement on what constitutes a satisfactory settlement. It is also a matter for public opinion in the Federal Republic and West Berlin.

Any restriction on the links between West Berlin and the Federal Republic would be viewed by people in this country as a turn for the worse.

As a result the Federal government in Bonn cannot go back on the targets it has set itself. The parties in the Bundestag approved Willy Brandt's declarations to this effect in the last Bundestag debate on the subject but as Klaus Schütz, Governing Mayor of West Berlin, pointed out very early on, Bonn has very little leeway.

The signing of the Moscow Treaty has not increased this leeway in the least. The Russian interview and disclaimer will certainly not do so either.

Axel Seeberg

(DEUTSCHES ALLGEMEINES SONNTAGSBLATT, 14 February 1971)

IN THIS ISSUE



Fund-raising ball

Three quarters of a million Marks were taken at the door, in donations and the raffle at the 1971 Sports Ball in Century Hall, Frankfurt, attended by 2,100 people in politics, industry, the arts and sport. The highest-ranking guest was Chancellor Willy Brandt who danced with opera singer Anneliese Rothenberger.

Heuss prizes awarded

Theodor Heuss prizes and medals have been awarded for the seventh time. The chairman of the governing body, Professor Adolf Butenandt, who is also head of the Max Planck Society, this country's scientific research association, presented Foreign Minister Walter Scheel (left) with his prize. Awards, given for praiseworthy democratic civic initiative, were also made to the Campaign for Young People in Need, the Campaign for Information on Educational Opportunities of Stuttgart and Hans-Hermann Stührenberg of Pivitsheide. (Photos: dpa)

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

China and Japan compete for precedence as America quits Asia

DIE ZEIT

How provincial our thought and talk have become. After having seen what stupendous changes are going on in Asia it comes as something of a surprise to discover after five weeks' absence that public debate in this country still centres on the same topics.

Have Chancellor Brandt, Foreign Minister Scheel and State Secretary Bahr sacrificed the country's legal claims for nothing? Would the Opposition Christian Democrats Kiesinger, Strauss and Barzel have been able to uphold them for the fatherland?

Who is suffering from delusions, the Left with its policy towards the Eastern Bloc or the Right with its ideas on maintenance of the status quo? And so on and so forth.

Revolutionary changes are taking place in Asia. In ten years' time it may well be that the centre of the world is not the Atlantic, with America on one side and Europe on the other, but the Pacific, where the latter-day great powers, America, Japan, Russia and China, rule the roost.

The two powers who have so far played the leading roles in the Asian theatre, America and China, are clearly both in the process of effecting crucial changes in their positions.

President Nixon's commitment to a gradual military withdrawal from the *Asian mainland, proclaimed in Guam in* July 1969, has brought to an end years of mistaken assumptions that a US military presence is sufficient to prevent the countries of South-East Asia from turning communist.

Last spring's Cambodian adventure and the present support of the South Vietnamese invasion of Laos are without doubt intended to cover the US withdrawal from Vietnam. Certainly, no other explanation seems at all probable.

Partial American withdrawal from Thailand to Japan provides Asian leaders, all of whom are basically committed to non-alignment, with new possibilities.

"The Americans always think," one pro-Western statesman commented, "that only countries allied with them are reliable bulwarks against Communism. In reality alliances of this kind create a risk of communist pressure being brought to bear."

Thailand owes its economic boom to the United States (and the Vietnam war) but the Thai Foreign Minister nonetheless noted that "We want the Americans to withdraw. We find it easier to deal with our problems ourselves than with the aid of an outsider."

Nowadays the old adage that trade follows the flag is evidently no longer accurate. Although the Stars and Stripes are disappearing in a variety of places more American firms, factories and offices are being set up in South-East Asia than ever before.

This, of course, is an unexpected consequence of the Vietnam war, as a result of which many Americans have struck their first acquaintanceship with this part of the world. US businessmen realise, in the final analysis, that Asia is coming to be the world's largest market and are acting accordingly.

The question that everyone is asking is, naturally enough, whether the Chinese will be satisfied with a belt of neutral countries surrounding them or whether they will insist on them becoming vassals paying tribute to Peking.

At present there can be no telling. No one knows, for that matter, why the cultural revolution, which was intended to prevent China's revolutionary elan from declining and make revolution permanent has been abandoned.

It was an attempt to provide Mao Tse-tung with an opportunity of communicating directly with the people over the heads of the Party and the bureaucratic machine. What happened?

Since late autumn 1969 Peking has clearly reverted to a pragmatic approach. Many civil servants returned to their desks bringing with them their innate desire for order and hierarchic ways of thinking.

At that precise juncture something quite unexpected occurred. Soviet Premier Kosygin, who was in Hanoi for the funeral of Ho Chi Minh, suddenly decided to fly to Peking for a meeting with Chou En-lai, his Chinese opposite number. Whereupon the Sino-Soviet frontier talks began.

Half a year later Chou En-lai resumed diplomatic visits. Renewed interest in the outside world became apparent. Ambassadors were reappointed. Canada and Italy recognised Peking.

Two years ago the mere mention of China worried its neighbours. Now most of them take a calmer view of the future. They are calmer because regional co-operation has got under way and their economic development has been consolidated.

"The Vietnam war bought us time," one Asian leader put it. Formosa, Korea and Thailand are economically successful, Australia has the highest GNP growth rate and Singapore one of the hardest currencies in the world.

The Soviet Union, whose last major success was the Tashkent agreement of January 1966 between India and Pakistan, has in contrast made little progress in Asia. Not even Leonid Brezhnev's proposal for a collective security system in Asia met with undue interest.

Moscow's sole success is Visakhapatnam on India's Eastern seaboard, where the Russians are building harbour facilities in return for certain rights on the Andaman and Nicobar Islands in the Indian Ocean.

It may well be that Japan shook China out of its revolutionary trance. Japan is the fourth world power and plays indeed *the* crucial role in Asia.

Maybe it took Herman Kahn's forecasts to give the Japanese the necessary self-confidence but it is only over the last two years or so that political dwarf Japan has become aware of its economic gianthood.

Japan is the third-largest industrial and economic power in the world. It comes third in the steel production stakes, second in automobile production and leads the world in electronic and optical goods. Last year Japanese computers accounted for roughly a third of the American market.

Over the last decade Japan's rate of industrial growth has averaged seventeen per cent. Put another way, the country's industrial production has doubled every four years.

Japanese businessmen can be seen everywhere where thirty years ago expressionless faces topped by Japanese helmets ruled the roost either firmly, as in Thailand and Indonesia, or by means of terror, as in Korea, the Philippines, Hong Kong, Vietnam, Malaya and Singapore.

Japanese exports are flooding all of Asia and of late investment has been increasing too. Japan is taking advantage of the enormous reservoir of cheap labour in mainland Asia, particularly as atmospheric and water pollution is on the increase in Japan itself.

Erstwhile occupied countries view the development of the military power of old into the third-largest economic power in the world with mixed feelings, all the more so since the announcement Japanese defence Minister Nakasone defence expenditure is to be dou[bled] from 1972 on.

The fears of old are recurring here [and] there but and large Japan is probably to be the best counterweight to China.

Ever since the United States decide[d to] return Okinawa to Japan in 197[2, a] decision that contrary to all expecta[tions] made possible the renewal of the mili[tary] pact between the two countries wit[h] much protest) relations between To[kyo] and Washington have improved.

In future there will not be four powers competing for control of A[sia]. There will only be two: China and Ja[pan]. It is not merely a matter of politic[al] material superiority. The minds [and] hearts of the Asian peoples are at st[ake].

Nowwhere is there any mistaking fascination exercised by China. Mo[st of] the country's admirers have never [been] there and have only a vague idea of [what] is going on in China but Asians are [proud] that one of their number once [a]gain wields power. Asia, they recall, boas[ted a] highly developed civilisation long be[fore] the whites ever did.

According to Derek Davies in H[ong] Kong, a man with a profound knowl[edge] of Asian affairs, "Japan is a nation, C[hina] is a civilisation."

Now that America is pulling its tr[oops] out of Asia and China reverting [to a] pragmatic approach new develop[ments] are conceivable. The more Peking a[ban]dons the aggressive and expansionis[t ele]ments in its policies the more attracti[ve it] becomes for others, even Japan, wh[ere] industry and the press are urging t[hat] normal relations be established.

The non-party China Lobby, set u[p in] December 1970, advocates full di[plo]matic relations with Peking and Chi[nese] membership of the United Nations. [Al]ready 52 per cent of members of [both] houses of the Japanese Diet support [the] lobby.

Yet as recently as 1969 the Socialis[ts] advocating friendship with China [and] opposing rearmament, lost 44 of th[eir] 134 seats in the general election.

The struggle between the two unu[sual] giants for influence in Asia will b[e a] dangerous but magnificent drama i[n which] China will tolerate no other god be[side] itself.

Marion Gräfin Dönho[ff]

(DIE ZEIT, 12 February 1971)

EEC monetary union

The six Common Market countries have announced their intention of transforming the European Economic Community (EEC) into an economic union that might by the end of the decade have a common currency.

It remains to be seen whether they will achieve this ambitious aim. For the time being a three-year initial phase has been decided.

From this country's points of view the coordination of economic policy in addition to monetary measures provides an opportunity of jointly working towards a greater degree of currency stability.

It has long been evident that with the present degree of international interrelationships stability is no longer a target that can be reached by countries pursuing individual policies.

The major political targets that Bonn originally had in mind, particularly an increase in the amount of power wielded by the Common Market executive and the European Parliament, have been postponed till 1973 or 1975.

This has proved to be a political necessity because Paris, having to bear in mind the views of orthodox Gaullists, has not yet felt able to agree to a greater degree of progress.

This is perhaps just as well in view of the entry bids by Britain, Norway, Denmark and Ireland. They will no longer be faced by faits accomplis that they must like or lump. They can now themselves bring influence to bear on further developments.

The idea of an EEC economic and currency union is not an offshoot of European integrationist ideology. It has arisen as a result of the needs of the hour.

The customs union in being since 1969 and the common agricultural market in particular were brought to the brink of a crisis two years ago by the devaluation of the French franc and the revaluation of the Mark. And a customs union without a common agricultural market would be unsatisfactory from France's point of view.

All EEC member-governments accordingly realised that forward strategy and further integration is the only way of safeguarding what has been achieved so far.

In view of the degree of economic integration already achieved and the need for large European concerns to remain competitive on world markets a reversion to separate national economies is practically inconceivable.

In order to prevent Common Market currencies from diverging still further the economies of the six member-countries must run parallel and more intensive steps to ensure that this is the case are now being undertaken.

At the same time the French would [like] to initiate immediate measures to provi[de] mutual safeguards for the currencies i[n] question. A decision has already bee[n] made to this effect.

For the time being, though, an e[x]perimental phase is all that has be[en] agreed on. The reason is that at t[he] present time France is not prepared [to] hand over the necessary economic a[nd] monetary policy powers to what wo[uld] amount to a kind of supranational g[ov]ernment.

Erich Hauser

(Hannoversche Presse, 11 February 1971)

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POLITICS

Bundestag is like a bitter battleground

Never before in the twenty-two year history of the Bundestag has the gallop into a new year been more hectic than this year. The battle of words on the state of the nation battlefield passed, almost without a hiatus into the long-winded debate on the budget.

This debate was less concerned with plans for government spending than in opening up the cleft between the government and the Opposition.

Great political discussions are once again taking place in the Bundestag following the break caused by the Grand Coalition when the major topics were hammered out in corridors and at corners.

The CDU/CSU form the strongest Opposition party that has ever sat in the Bundestag. Once again there are earth-shattering debates on the burning subjects of the day and with the Bundestag exercising its legal controls over the executives our parliamentary system is working as intended.

Almost without respite the government is having to justify its actions to a Bundestag that has greater self-confidence than ever before.

There are now two definite camps and this gives an uncomfortable impression that polarisation has taken place. The vehemence of the debates has been as corrosive as nitric acid.

In anger Chancellor Brandt left a plenary meeting after an attack from the Opposition. This has never before happened in the Bundestag.

The war of nerves has even spread to the restaurant in the Bundeshaus where delegates no longer mix freely, but sit separated from each other as their grey faces frown and they sip their soup.

Has the newly-won self-awareness of members of the Bundestag made them too enervated, too eager to pick quarrels and thus for the most part ineffectual?

There has been a flood of letters to the President from ordinary people who are perturbed by the new trend and are beginning to doubt the purpose and sanctity of parliamentarianism.

Kai-Uwe von Hassel, however, is sticking to his role as middleman and trouble-shooter and does not intend to be thrown off balance.

He speaks in terms of "passionate involvement for the cause", and this is leading him astray so that he too shows understanding when debates become overheated and someone goes off the rails.

"Political set-to's are not out of place, they are refreshing, the very life blood of democracy . . ."

With this maxim von Hassel obviously means "limited conflict", which prevents political battles being fought violently and which restricts confrontation to legitimate forms.

Polarisation into a friend-foe situation in the Bundestag must perturb even Herr von Hassel. A lead from the President of the Bundestag on this score is overdue.

Herr von Hassel disputes that the vehemence of the party battles in the Bundestag invalidates parliamentary reforms introduced by the parliamentary parties and von Hassel himself in the days of the Grand Coalition or that it means these reforms have been put on ice.

Reforms are, in his opinion, long-term developments and work is constantly in progress on the mélange of the work and discussions that go to make up the Bundestag. Rationalisation is in progress, he says, and the Bundestag is being adapted to make it a working proposition for the eighties.

It can be confirmed that the Bundestag has checked the unnecessary evil of long, highly academic and specialised speeches. The fifteen-minute rule introduced in 1969 has made a lot of speakers lose all desire to give heroic monologues! The parties in the Bundestag are making efforts to see that they do not always give the platform to the same star speakers but also give younger members a chance.

This Bundestag is proud of the fact that it has lowered its average age to 52. Of the 518 members (34 of them women) 154 are newcomers.

They are looking for a "gap on the market" of Bundestag affairs into which they can slot themselves. They are seeking new spheres such as environmental protection in which they can assert themselves against the old hands. In question time, as well, a newcomer can earn his spurs. Local matters are not coming to the fore so often so there is no question of upholding a "constituency image". Question time has become far more political.

The role of the plenary sessions as a national forum is to be emphasised by delegating trivial and routine work to committees. The computer in the plenary hall is at last in action.

There has been a certain amount of opposition to the so-called Hearing that has become popular of late. Experts come from the whole of the Federal Republic, and even from abroad, and engage in disputes that may last for days, and which delegates cannot keep up with because of their crowded timetable.

There has not yet been adequate discussion of the question of whether the petitions committee could not well be replaced with an ombudsman following the Scandinavian example in order to help members of the public who are plagued by bureaucracy.

The idea that in the administration of a modern state legislative workers must be strengthened as compared with executives gives a kind of cart blanche for constant extension of the apparatus of the Bundestag.

In order to secure a faster flow of information within the Bundestag and keener public interest the press officer, who for a long time worked alone, has been augmented by a 32-strong press department.

The Bundestag administrators grant 1,600 Marks a month to each Bundestag member to provide for an assistant. It is left up to the individual whether he chooses an assistant or a secretary.

The status of the help that the member chooses is for the most part indeter-

CHRIST UND WELT

minate and is decided on points such as whether he or she is there just to deal with the post, to act alongside the member as an expert or whether he is just to be an ambitious young person allowed to use the name of the Bundestag in order to further his career.

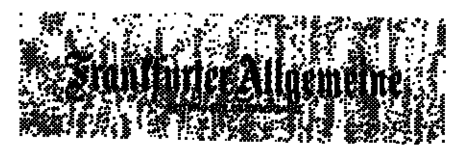
The aim of providing every member with an assistant and a secretary is more a matter of space than anything else. "Lange Eugen" (the Bundeshaus administrative block, named after Eugen Gerstenmaier) is bursting at the seams. This skyscraper, not yet two years old, provides only one room for each deputy.

But in 1974 the first shovel of soil will be turned for a new building complex in Bonn including a plenary hall and accommodation for members of the Bundestag, the parliamentary parties and committees. By 1985 this will be overtaken by a new parliamentary quarter on the banks of the Rhine at Bonn.

Wolfgang Höpker

(CHRIST UND WELT, 12 February 1971)

Government comes under fire in Bundestag debate



Budget debates, industrial and economic policy debates, German policy debates; there have been these bitter confrontations between the government and Opposition in the Bundestag within two weeks.

There are are not so *many* weeks to go now to the local elections in Berlin, which take place in March prior to the provincial assembly elections in the Rhineland Palatinate and Schleswig-Holstein.

All the main speakers in these debates in Bonn have got their calendar of speeches for the forthcoming elections well marked up.

In these Bonn debates Willy Brandt and Kurt Georg Kiesinger, Rainer Barzel and Herbert Wehner, Karl Schiller and Franz Josef Strauss all had a watchful eye on the polls in March and April.

The government coalition is hoping to win a victory in Schleswig-Holstein which will give it a majority in the Bundesrat (Upper House) where the odds at present are 20-21 against it. The Opposition is hoping that these elections will prove its statement that the greater part of the electorate is on its side, is not just a theory but a fact.

If the Christian Democrats gain votes this will at least confound Chancellor Willy Brandt who claims that the government majority is greater among the electorate than *is reflected in the Bundestag.'*

The government, both members in power and opposition, realise that the forthcoming state elections will to a large extent be a referendum on this country's policies.

Finance policies under the headline "budget", economic affairs policies headed "the economy of industry", Ostpolitik and German affairs policies under the title "Report on the state of the Nation" – these three major topics on the Bundestag's agenda for a fortnight have taken in virtually all policies of the government.

This fortnight of debating is a general parliamentary debate which cannot be repeated in this form at any other time this year.

It is vital for this whole political year what form the government and Opposition show. Is the government "on form"? The fact that the Opposition says it is not is self-evident and so obvious that it proves nothing.

But even the Chancellor's most loyal supporters are obviously not risking giving a definite Yes. There have been too many cases of ministers scorning other ministers and speaking scornfully of cabinet meetings.

Such utterances as these have come on repeated occasions and are obviously not words that have been dropped in haste. No government can be a brotherhood bound by an oath. But it does seem that there are too many contrary opinions in government circles for comfort.

The word has gone around that in previous governments ministers were exchanging hard words after a couple of years but in the present SPD/FDP setup ministers have been making such exchanges after the first twelve months of office.

But this first year in power has brought disappointments to the Coalition and these inevitably cropped up in these debates which took stock of the first twelve months under Willy Brandt. Firstly there was the disappointment of finding out that domestic reforms are easy to put forward, but difficult to pay for. Secondly there has been the realisation that in foreign policy fields the best will in the world is no use if the partner across the negotiating table shows no good will.

Reforms have been nipped in the bud, Ostpolitik and German policies are getting nowhere – the only thing that seems to be making steady progress is the rise in prices.

There is a good deal of uncertainty about prices, but it is certain that the Chancellor has been disappointed in his hopes following the signing of the treaties in Warsaw and Moscow and in the recognition that there are two German States.

This put the government on a weak footing and the Opposition in a strong position in the debate on German policies. Hope is no panacea in politics. At any rate it is not one of the "points of contact" with the Opposition.

The main point of contact is in the government's and Opposition's desire to see a satisfactory settlement of the Berlin question. However, nobody knows whether the two sides will agree on the definition of the word "satisfactory"!

Red light and green

While the government will give the green light for ratifying the treaties with the East as soon as the Berlin problem is cleared up the Opposition light will still be at red. The CDU/CSU will not give the go-ahead while the GDR insists on splitting the two parts of Germany down the middle with the most inhuman of boundaries in Europe.

With the Chancellor and Foreign Minister taking up different stands in the Bundestag debate they are in a weaker position and the Opposition is stronger. It is no easy to convince the electorate that the Opposition does not want detente since it is now demanding what the government also demanded earlier on.

Nor is it easy for the government to keep quiet about all those reforms that it was once accusing the CDU/CSU of having failed to implement. We know from experience that it is not possible to do everything at once. The Chancellor has now said this very clearly. But why did he not speak so clearly when the SPD/FDP coalition first came to power?

It is not only untruths in a statement of government policy, but also promises that have a nasty habit of rebounding. Perhaps at that time the enthusiasm of those who thought that the new broom would sweep clean swept the Chancellor off his feet. But now the plaudits have died down and Willy Brandt is sensing the disappointment of these acolytes. They are able to keep a distance from reality that the Chancellor cannot.

The beating of drums at the formation of the new government has now become muffled. It would have been better if the drums had not been beaten so loud at the outset. They are echoing in many people's ears although their beat is outdated. There was no drumbeating in this past fortnight of debating.

For Brandt and Scheel and their government it is now the sound of distant drums.

Alfred Rapp

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 6 February 1971)

■ MASS MEDIA

Communist press steps up its activities

At the end of January members of the Hamburg "Socialist Workers and Apprentices centre" (SALZ) announced, "We need a workers' press again." To show what they meant by this, they recently printed the *Communist Worker Newspaper*. The February issue ran to 10,000 copies.

Communists, Socialists, Marxists and Maoists are no longer content with the pamphlets produced by the Communist underground. The new Communist Party in this country, the DKP, and red splinter groups such as SALZ are building up a network of propaganda and information.

The DKP was set up in 1968 and now has 30,000 members and a large party apparatus at its disposal — thirteen regional organisations, 220 local district branches and over 1,200 cadres such as Communist groups in factories, universities and residential areas.

Information is provided as follows. The Federal executive of the DKP publishes central paper *Unsere Zeit* (Our Era), commonly knows as UZ.

The regional organisations produce leaflets for party officials and the press. District branches and the basic groups put together the small newspapers for factories and city suburbs.

Today the Communist Party distributes 200 factory newspapers, some of them with three colour printing, and eighty suburban newspapers in the Federal Republic. The total numbers printed vary from 500 to 8,000.

"*The Pill*", advertisers promise, "appears regularly and has a lasting effect." This factory newspaper provides propaganda medicine for the staff of Bayer of Leverkusen.

Red Star, the DKP factory newspaper for the Stuttgart area, signposts the right direction for workers at Mercedes, whose advertising slogan is "Your good star on all roads."

The DKP Federal executive shows these left-wing newspaper proprietors the line to be taken. News of grievances in the reader's immediate area are meant to provoke discontent and class awareness.

Many of these factory newspapers are printed in Party buildings such as the Merkur Hof, the headquarters of the Hamburg DKP. The papers are handed out to workers as they leave work. They are either free or cost the worker a donation to show his solidarity.

The Red Kadett appeared at least four times in 1970 for workers at Opel's in Bochum. In January 1971 it created unrest with the hot story that the production of the Kadett was to be transferred to Japan. Opel's denied the report.

The Red Beetle appeared seven times in 1970 for Volkswagen workers. Kurt Fritsch, chairman of the local DKP branch, produced these.

In the *Leather-Worker* of Pirmasens the left-wing journalists tried to awaken the workers' proletarian awareness with puns: "We make up to twenty pairs of shoes a day but we are down at heel."

Publishing communist newspapers is legal. So far no attempt has been made to examine the hostility shown by the DKP and other organisations to Basic Law.

The Association of the Victims of the Nazi Regime prints 13,000 copies a week of *Die Tat*. The Deutsche Friedensunion (Peace Union) prints 17,000 copies of its weekly, the *Deutsche Volkszeitung*.

The Socialist Unity Party of West Berlin issues 14,000 copies of *Die Wahrheit* (Truth) five times a week. The Socialist Working Youth publishes 20,500 copies a month of its magazine *Elan*.

UZ, the DKP central organ, has now caused a stir because it will be printed by the Heska Printing Company of Klein Krotzenburg near Hanau with an expensive multi-colour process that only six printers in this country have been able to afford up to now.

The DKP itself did not contibute to the founding of this joint-stock company. Its working capital is one million Marks. The company was set up, according to the Trade Register of 16 February 1970, by the Fuldaer Verlagsanstalt (the publishers of the *Fuldaer Volkszeitung*), the two old Hamburg Communists, Karl Heinsohn and Herbert Stender, the Plambeck printing concern of Neumünster and Constantin Assimakis of Vevey, Switzerland.

Where the money for this million-Mark

Continued on page 5

First issue of *PZ* journal

(Photo: Bundeszentrale für politische Bi

Daily paper starts TV news service

Daily newspapers in this country are now turning their attention to Ludwigshafen where the publishers of the daily *Rheinpfalz* have started their own television programme as a special service to their customers.

This news service, a television version of the newspaper, appeals to passers-by and readers interested in the latest news items.

Four television monitors have now been up in the publishers' window in the centre of Ludwigshafen and in a neighbouring wine cellar belonging to the Hahnhof chain.

Programmes are transmitted twice a day — at midday and in the evening. People who like to keep up with the news are then able to find out what has happened since the newspaper first appeared that day.

Local events are given prominence along with worldwide news. Pictures too are shown. There are also recorded interviews to counterbalance the rather dry announcements.

The newspaper's TV editorial staff directs the television work itself. Two women and a man from this department act as announcers — without inhibitions or make-up.

The fourth announcer is the advertising man whose office has been rebuilt as a studio. The concern's staff also man the television cameras.

Publisher Dieter Schaub first raised the idea last November, set to work right away and plans were materialised in a jiffy. The first broadcasts took place as early as January.

The technology of the *Rheinpfalz* studio is the only thing that is provisional. But when sport commentator Harry Valerien of the ZDF Sportstudio was recently invited to Ludwigshafen to pass his judgement, he had to admit that he had seen a future means of communication. (CHRIST UND WELT, 5 February 1971)

Akut — the new scientific monthly magazine

New magazines are like rockets — nobody knows whether their lift-off will be successful. A new scientific periodical has now just appeared on newsstards.

Its 82 pages are laid out excellently, the pictures are good and the colour prints even better offering the reader a total of about thirty features ranging from aggression to garbage disposal, from the Concorde to the history of the sun.

A popular biography of Charles Darwin ("The monotony of his life was only interrupted by the birth and death of his children.") acquaints us with the sleeping and waking habits of the British scientist.

The material is rich, as can be seen, but rather confused. In his long editorial publisher Professor von Ditfurth opposes popular science and pleads for scientific journalism.

His editorial staff on the other hand print articles like "What is a hormone?" or "The biography of a star" which bear the unmistakable stamp of popular science. The periodical's policy does not become completely clear.

The magazine was originally to be called *Apollo* but it has now been christened *Akut*, and costs 2.50 Marks. The final decision is now up to the reader. Will he accept this scientific magazine and, if so, as what?

"Nobody is obliged to be interested in science," von Ditfurth says, but he would like these people to read *Akut* and learn about the effects of scientific endeavour on society and coming generations.

Can they do that just by reading a magazine without any deeper commitment? A certain amount of arrogance could easily slip into this view. Customers could be frightened off by a pathetic style of enlightenment that is made too plain. Gregor Mendel is described as a "bearer of the cowl", one of the many mannerisms that are used to polish up the text and give *Akut* an image. We must wait and see whether it will be successful.

(CHRIST UND WELT, 5 February 1971)

Uwe Seeler lends his name to the cause of women's rights

The Federal Central Bureau for Political Education intended to provoke with the first issue of its journal, *PZ*, circulation 250,000. It was meant to bring the subject of female emancipation to the public's attention.

But there is little controversy in *PZ* except for some anti-emancipationists who, out of comfort or sympathetic understanding for their hard work for the home and family, get over the problem of equality simply by raising housewives appreciatively onto a pedestal.

The only provocation is the fact that a serious subject is treated lightly in the style of the popular press. And that only provokes people to pick the magazine up and read it.

Bold headlines such as "To be a housewife is a terrible job", "We are the slaves of the nation" and "Woman a[illegible] scrub" along with lively photograp[illegible] a mixture of famous people ranging [illegible] Uwe Seeler and Willy Brandt to Mari[illegible] Koch enable the reader to develop a[illegible] for the more indigestible material [illegible] the discrimination against unm[illegible] women, the poor pay for profes[illegible] women and even the accusation [illegible] women themselves are mostly to [illegible] for their situation.

In fact it is sometimes made too [illegible] and tasty so that in the end the [illegible] cream (Uwe Seeler's utterly convention[illegible] assessment of his wife) and the [illegible] (the failure of a Cologne woman [illegible] politics because of her sex) are mix[illegible] into a digestible mash.

Woman is an equal partner of man, [illegible] reader learns. Unfortunately there are [illegible] a lot of changes to be made but, [illegible] goodness, a lot has changed since [illegible] was a small girl.

"Girls, resist!" pleads the last [illegible] Resist the education system that [illegible] mothers of mothers. Resist the explo[illegible] tion by males in the plush surround[illegible] of home and on the factory floor.

Resist too a journal whose [illegible] touch stories tell you no more than [illegible] knew already and which does not [illegible] out any practical way of overcomin[illegible] problem.

Resist above all the middle-of-the [illegible] solution that refers to the natural [illegible] nine virtues of charm and humanity [illegible] allows you to play your old role [illegible] when the theatre of events has [illegible] changed.

The desk in an office is only a diffe[illegible] shape to the stove. The place on [illegible] assembly line, achieved by men offe[illegible] without difficulty, no satisfaction [illegible] permitting any identification, is no [illegible] alternative to the grey existence in [illegible] itude but merely a dubious the[illegible] thought up by progressive males [illegible] willingly place at your disposal [illegible] position that does not threaten his [illegible] role.

(Handelsblatt, 2 February 19[illegible])

Continued from page 4

project came from remains a Socialist secret. The few advertisements appearing in UZ are not enough to enable the paper to make a profit.

Of the 70,000 copies printed each week two thirds are given away. This Communist newspaper's best advertising customers are the State-run trade concerns of the Eastern Bloc countries, such as Coopexim of Warsaw. Speaking of its publishing plans, the DKP announces, "The *UZ* will soon appear daily."

Editor-in-chief Gerd Deumlich, 41 years old and a member of the DKP until it was banned, published his editorial policies in a multicoloured trial issue *UZ Extra* printed by Heska.

The paper is to fight for the ratification of the Moscow and Warsaw Treaties, recognition of the German Democratic Republic (GDR) and European security.

UZ Extra proudly announces, "Lenin once said that every cook must learn to run the state. The workers of today have created their own press. A press . . . that is completely independent."

The propaganda cooks are in reality Party officials dependent not only on the DKP but, ideologically and financially, on the GDR too. They have created red bases that hope for an economic crisis when they will be in their element.

Konrad Jürgen

(WELT am SONNTAG, 7 February 1971)

PROFILE

Germany's first republican — Friedrich Ebert

One of the odd facts about the first ten years of the Federal Republic is that the middle-class parties found little difficulty in bringing their great parliamentary opponents, the Social Democrats, into discredit with the electorate by making emotional references that were more than fifty years old.

The Social Democrats were not attacked for what they had done when in government but for the more or less relevant theories and demands for a class struggle that were made long before the time when the Social Democrats had a say in the running of the German State.

In 1914 at the latest the Social Democrats showed that they did not want to overthrow the State when they voted in favour of the war credits bill. Two years later they even took into account a split in their party.

And another two years later they saved the mismanaged bourgeois monarchist State from the serious internal consequences of a lost war that had unusually devastating effects in foreign policy.

The monarchic element had to be surrendered (this was however more of an abdication) but they preserved the bourgeois element, though without being paid full due for this in the Weimar Republic or during the fifties in the Federal Republic.

The man who played a decisive role in leading Social Democrats on to a moderate course half a century ago was Friedrich Ebert, the first President of a German Republic.

He was born one hundred years ago on 4 January 1871. There is a certain charm in the fact that his birth almost coincided with the proclamation of the German Reich that seemed destined to be ruled by a monarch for time eternal but which had to accept a Republican head of state after only 47 years of existence, in fact the very man that had been born at its birth.

It would admittedly be false to carry the comparison further and state that the Reich attained republican maturity as the man himself had become mature. This would be contradicted by the further development of the State, not to mention the apparent coincidences of 1918.

Ebert, the son of a poor tailor from Heidelberg, had no chance to study and became a saddler's apprentice. He joined the Social Democratic Party at the age of eighteen and even in his first years with the party showed a more pragmatic tendency for organisational work.

At first he was chairman of the trades union cartel in Bremen, a local editor and a member of the House of Burgesses. In 1905 he became the secretary of the party executive in Berlin.

During the next stages of his political career — he became a Reichstag deputy in 1912, succeeded August Bebel as party chairman in 1913 and became chaiman of the parliamentary party in 1913 — he showed himself to be a moderate by acting as a go-between between the right and left wings of the party.

Though opposing the Reich government in principle, Ebert thought that there should be a truce during the war. Within his party however he gained an unusual reputation that also had its outward effects.

When a kind of revolution from above caused by the sight of the crumbling empire finally made a long overdue constitutional change at the end of October 1918 and introduced a parliamentary monarchy, Ebert had become a key figure of the events to come.

Though Ebert thought it adequate, this reform could no longer prevent the collapse of the monarchy. It therefore came about that the last Imperial Chancellor, Prince Max of Baden, asked Ebert to succeed him at almost he same moment as the Kaiser abdicated. "It is a difficult office," the Social Democrat replied, "but I will take it over."

The controversy of whether the Social Democrats under Ebert thus prevented the chances of a more far-reaching revolution of the conditions in Germany in 1918, and indeed betrayed the revolution, is still heated today.

It is ignored that the majority of the German public was completely unprepared when confronted with a revolutionary situation and that moreover the wish for a continuation of the old situation predominated.

Ebert found a compromise — a republic was set up but without the more far-reaching changes demanded by the left wing. In doing this, Ebert took into account the breech with the Independent Social Democrats with whom he sat on the Council of People's Representatives. His aim was the parliamentarian democracy that the National Assembly should have put into practice.

The extent to which this aim is due to his deep respect for the democratic processes can be seen in the fact that he tried to insist upon a decision by a constitutent assembly at the very time that the republic was proclaimed.

The fact that he had an almost conservative feeling for the positive aspects in the order of the previous State must also have played a role here.

On 11 February 1919 the National Assembly elected Ebert as the temporary President. He remained in this position when the constitution came into force and in 1922 the Reichstag prolonged his term to 1925.

Criticised by both the left and the right, Ebert remained a moderate and a moderator, always intent on protecting the new democracy from extremist attacks.

Personal attacks were also made. For the right wing and the extreme left wing he remained a "traitor". These criticisms are the first sign of the forces that were to destroy the first German Republic eight years after Ebert's death.

Leo Sillner

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 3 February 1971)

Friedrich Ebert

(Photo: dpa)

President Heinemann on his illustrious predecessor

When speaking about Friedrich Ebert, one has to think of a man who between 1871 and 1925 travelled a path from the limitations of the parental home and youth to the highest office in the State.

The period in which he lived encompassed decisive events and important occurrences of our social and political history on whose course Ebert for his part had considerable influence as his responsibility increased.

Anyone seeking a description of the life of Ebert depicting his life in full degree and with a scientifically thorough balance of all the influences from the environment and on the environment will find that there is a gap here, right up to the present day.

The wealth of minor literature on Ebert and the frequent mention of Ebert in the memoirs of his contemporaries and opponents cannot replace the non-existent grand work.

But it is idle to explore the reasons for this situation during this moment of commemoration. It is impossible here to catch up on what is still unsettled in the depiction of Ebert.

Ebert started his career as a man of the people and it is as a man of the people that he continued it at all stages of his life — not with bravado and glamour but with the straightforward objectivity that simple people often possess.

He remained unruffled in everything he thought correct. He held together what could only survive the demands of the time together.

As the first President of a republican system in our history we see Ebert as a man who devoted his life to achieve equality for the working class that was excluded from all privileges in the class-ridden society of the German Empire.

We see him as a man who tried to reconcile this stratum of our people with the State and make them, in rights and obligations, supporters of the whole system. He sought a democratic and social order combining all ranks of our people.

Ebert also adhered to his belief in the democratic system in 1918 when it seemed possible to launch the new era with Soviet dominion and a violent and bloody upheaval in all branches of society.

In recent years the accusation that Ebert and his close political colleagues thereby betrayed the revolution has been resurrected. These critics fail to see that Ebert acted in 1918 as his life was fashioned, namely for the participation and responsibility of all.

Neither Ebert nor *his closest* political colleagues intended to replace an old class dominion by a new class dominion of a different type. What they sought was democratic self-determination for the whole people regarding its future course. They adhered to this when power came to them as representatives of the people. Moreover there is the question of whether the victorious Western powers would have accepted Bolshevisation in Germany. A conquered nation cannot always be as free in its domestic policy as it might like.

Now that the democratic order as such has become essentially an undisputed from and basis of our life today in the Federal Republic, we should all remember what Ebert contributed when he opposed calls for a Soviet system and put in its place a national assembly elected by all citizens.

Many of his extreme contemporaries reviled him enough for this at the time and the so-called national bourgeoisie, for whom Ebert had held the way open into the new State through his resistance to a Soviet system, never thanked him but prepared the way for Hitler by raging against the "saddler's apprentice" Ebert.

In 1950 on the 25th anniversary of the death of Friedrich Ebert Theodor Heuss stated that the first President of the German Reich deserved the gratitude of the nation. That is also true today, today perhaps more than ever.

Historical comparisons between then and now are only possible to a certain extent. But one factor has recurred. Once again the bill after defeat in the Second World War is as harsh as it was after defeat in the First World War. Once again the new bill must be paid by those people who bore no guilt for the fresh disaster.

A new stab-in-the-back legend must not spread. Today it would have even less of a semblance of justification than it did after the First World War.

The Federal Republic of Germany is internally more consolidated than the Weimar Republic was. Let us nevertheless remain alert! There have always been dogmatic extremists and people who live in the past. They exist now as well. It has not yet been shown whether our democracy will withstand all attacks.

Ebert and the Weimar Republic collapsed under the burden and the consequences of a lost war. They also collapsed under the assault of the Communists and the irrationality of those people who wanted to win the lost First World War after the event instead of finanally recognising the lesson shown by the First World War that Germany can only live in the centre of Europe in peace. We have had this lesson once again. To bear it in mind would be the best way to show gratitude to Friedrich Ebert.

(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 5 February 1971)

■ DRAMA

Violence play criticised in Munich

DIE WELT

The two women members of the council, both from the SPD, who accused the Munich *Theater der Jugend* of being a corrupting influence on the young, must have been deaf and blind.

They proved themselves to be as much old fogeys as the local CSU after the last premiere. They called the Yuri Olescha play *Die Drei Dicken* an experiment with a left-wing twist. This could have had a detrimental effect on the personnel of this company and financial consequences and it contributed in no uncertain fashion to the early history of this premiere.

It was to have been postponed for tactical reasons. It was intended to let the storm of criticism blown up by partisans die down so that the dust could settle around the Theater der Jugend before the adventurous step of putting on the first performance of Helmut Walbert's *Oder auf etwas schießen, bis es kaputt ist* (Or shoot at something until it's done for) was taken.

The outcome was quite different, however, when theatre manager Everding and cultural adviser Hohenemser watched a rehearsal. They looked and listened carefully and shelved any prejudices they may have had.

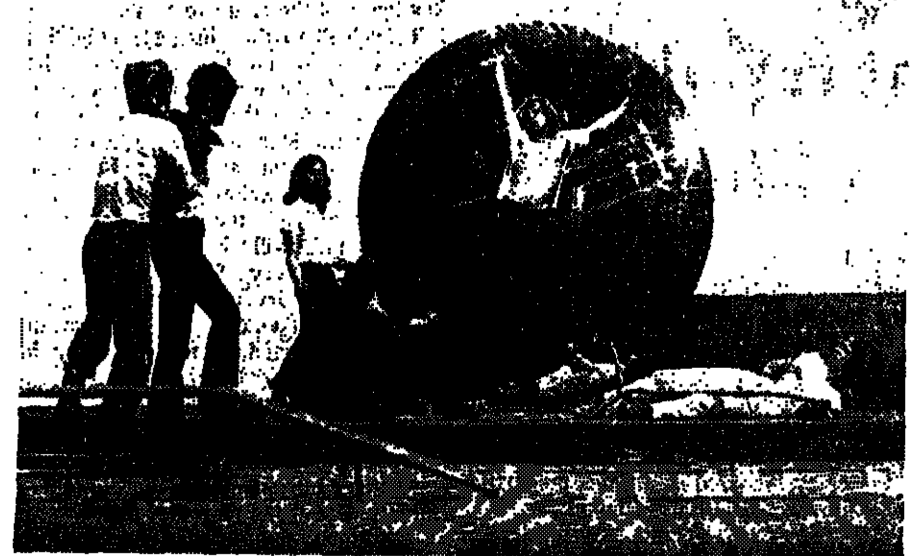
Their verdict was that the director, Hartmut Baum, and his cast of six trainee actors from the Falckenberg School could carry on — why ever should they be stopped?

The accusation made by the Munich city authorities that the action of this play, violent acts carried out by a gang of youths, would tend to lead young members of the audience to copy their actions, was made without any regard to the manner in which the action was portrayed.

This is a modern play and not so simple as the oldfashioned realistic fairytale or operetta plays for youngsters, which simply put over their content without comment or criticism.

To oldfashioned and uncritical minds this very change may appear experimental and therefore dangerous.

In short the yobs in the play and the actors who play them are distanced from each other very clearly and the actors stand outside their roles which give a display of bullying.



A scene from Helmut Walbert's 'Oder auf etwas schiessen, bis es kaputt ist?' at Munich (Photo: Hildegard Steinmetz)

They display typical poses. They are caricatures with exaggerated movements. Their mannerisms and mannerisms of speech are simplistic.

They mock thoughtless and dangerous ways of killing time. Every fourteen year-old member of the audience would realise that the whole thing was a send-up.

In addition to this there is no action in the usual sense of the word, no hero figure. There is no one in the play that the audience could get to grips with and imitate.

Walbert described and Baum staged the grim monotony of violent time-killing. The play is aimed at the young in that it despises the stupid, pointless aggression that may attract the young.

The play shows a pattern of behaviour in order to rectify it, but the play unfortunately overplays the motivations behind what it is criticising and hides this beneath a welter of oversimplified morality for children.

Don't play with firearms! (In this case bird-scarers and real revolvers). You never know, they may be loaded! Murder and suicide are in the end the inevitable but fatal consequences of wanton beginnings.

But there are motive forces behind all this that are far more important. Recognising them is more important than moral lectures. What must be recognised is the force of power, a change of power and powerlessness. *Dietmar N. Schmidt*

(DIE WELT, 3 February 1971)

Bremen offers Fassbinder a stage

A reporter in the *Deutsche Zeitung* of 2 April 1929 painted a black picture when he scoffed at the 'old guard' of the theatre that he had seen and gave a warning about the 'new'.

He wrote: "The new military will rob you of your pleasurable unadorned entertainment and there will be no laughing and joking with them. This army will play politics, no matter what" and no matter what banner they are carrying.

The reader had the choice between the hammer and sickle or the swastika.

It must be added that the unadorned entertainment of the *Pioneers in Ingolstadt* was not literary and not particularly pleasurable.

Bertolt Brecht, who had put on the Marieluise Fleisser play at the Schiffbauerdamm Theatre in Berling, would have been just as aware as Rainer Werner Fassbinder what kind of material he had before him.

Sexual fascism is only a version of political fascism. Fassbinder took the play, adapted it, filmed it and now has staged it himself.

Three women survive the journey through Ingolstadt of some pioneers, each in different ways, and each at the end in a hopeless situation.

Alma (Irm Hermann) gives up prostitution in the end. Berta (Elisabeth Ebeling) lies deflowered and dejected because the pioneer Karl declines love.

Frieda (Hille Darjes), whom Alma has hoodwinked, goes through the play with insignificant passivity.

Only the pioneers and the representatives of a swimming club cover their costs.

Feelings do not come into it since, "in love you've got to be coldhearted." And, "You've got to believe in us and then let yourself be betrayed by us."

This is the same kind of frigidity that qualifies political fascists, the same kind of love that is colder than death.

The Bremen theatres put the 'Concordia' at Fassbinder's disposal. It was once a dance club and and later an "art theatre", then it became a cinema and finally an experimental stage. Now it is first and foremost the official Bremen experimental stage.

The audience sits on benches that are specially constructed for the performance. The stage is an angular arena. This arena is all things at all times, a bar, a prostitute's beat, a lover's meadow and a square for squarebashing. Expenditure on costumes is minimal.

The production is without ornamentation, defies interpretation and is at times materialistic theatre, almost. It is theatre that captures the attention. It is theatre that is independent of the theatre and this material. It unmasks the heroines of Ingolstadt of its own accord.

Jürgen Schmidt

(CHRIST UND WELT, 5 February 1971)



A scene from Fassbinder's 'Pioneers in Ingolstadt' at Bremen (Photo: Thomas Heitkamp)

Ayckbourn's succes[s] West End play raises laughs in Be[rlin]

Successful young British write[r] Ayckbourn would be happy [...] Parisian boulevard maestri Achard Roussin could put their trust in a young generation "which takes the [...]ing of comedies for the boulevard th[...] as seriously as other dramatists who [...] plays dealing with problems".

In the declared intention of "[...] new accents to the contemporary b[oule]vard theatre" Ayckbourn, who is ob[vious]ly one of the most talented memb[ers of] this younger generation, wrote his [...] act comedy *Die bessere Hälfte* [(The] better half) which was entitled *Ho[w the] other half loves* in Britain.

The play packed the Lyric T[heatre] every night when it was put o[n last] autumn. At the Komödie, West [Berlin] Ayckbourn's play looks like repeati[ng its] success. The first ever German [per]formance of the play caused gus[hes of] unashamed laughter in the stalls.

As far as content is concerned th[e play] has little that is new. In the [usual] boulevard manner Ayckbourn's pl[ay gets] tangled up in the stories of three m[arried] couples.

Fiona is being unfaithful to he[r hus]band Frank. Her affair is with Bo[b who] works for Frank. The two adu[lterers] come home late at night and are ch[allenged] ed by their respective spouses [...] excuse themselves by saying that [...] Mrs Featherstone wanted to talk to [them] about certain pressing marital prob[lems] frankly, openly and at length.

The basis is set for the usual c[om]plications, which the author [man]ages to unravel with the usual sk[ill of] this genre of play.

While Ayckbourn's action and dia[logue] are nothing new and he simply pla[ys] the old trump cards the structure [of the] play is an innovation.

He telescopes the stylish living roo[m of] Frank and his wife into the untidy [living] room of Bob and his missus so cle[verly] that the two married couples are a[ble to] recite their usual morning marital qu[arrels] simultaneously.

And the dinners to which Fran[k and] Bob's wife Teresa invite the Fe[ather]stones quite independently of eac[h other] take place on two consecutive day[s but] are seen to happen on the stage [simul]taneously and in the same room.

In this way Alan Ayckbourn manag[es] to bring out the contrast between [the] sterile, classy world of the manag[ing] director and the proletarian world of [the] employee.

In this scene at least Ayckbourn sh[ows] himself to be an author who can [be] trusted to bring a breath of modernit[y] settings to the boulevard theatre.

Ottokar Runze's production did [not] entirely live up to the play's promise.

Runze got the boulevard amusem[ent] angle off to a flying start, but ignori[ng] the nuances and reflections contain[ed in] the play he landed far too quickly [in] crazy farce, which is part of the play [but] certainly not the whole point of it.

Karin Hubner was too ecstatic in [the] role of Fiona and Wolfgang Wahl as Fr[ank] was too controlled and this meant [...] Gaby Gasser and Stefan Behrens were [seen] as the outstanding actor and actress.

Gaby Gasser was an attractive [...] bomb with a violent temperament in [the] role of Teresa, Stefan Behrens in [the] office Romeo part doled out devil[-may-]care charm.

Peter Schiff filled his bureaucratic [role] with unerring comedy and Chris[...] Diersch managed to bring out the [...] and touching aspects of a frustrated [...]

Hellmut Kotschenreuth[er]

(Kieler Nachrichten, 3 Februar[y 1971])

■ CINEMA

Volker Schlöndorff film chronicles peasant life



DIE ZEIT

In all his films up to now Volker Schlöndorff has dealt with the subject of conformity and resistance against the coercion of an openly terrorist or latently authoritarian and restrictive system.

This theme from *Young Törless*, *Murder and Manslaughter*, *Kohlhaas the Rebel* and *Baal* can also be found in his latest film about a mail robbery in Upper Hesse in 1821, *The Sudden Wealth of the Poor People of Kombach*.

Stylistically, the film-cum-moritat is a follow-up to *Törless* and *Baal*. As far as content is concerned, it is a continuation of *Kohlhaas* whose specifically apolitical attitude fascinated Schlöndorff.

The Kombach peasants act apolitically, uncomplicatedly and without reflection. But, unlike Kohlhaas, they act in the only way that their powerlessness allows them — they attack a gold waggon and all but one are soon caught and executed. Two others commit suicide beforehand.

They do not question the iniquity of the laws. They are not revolutionaries but criminals — and they know this. Schlöndorff wants to show why a revolution does not take place and "how a certain social structure makes it impossible for the prejudiced to see and change their position."

The film gives a clear picture of their position. They live close on starvation level, they are in debt and plagued by taxes. The authorities, the Church, schools and education veil their position, systematically keep them dependent and unaware and consolidate their blind belief in fate.

Hollow, burdensome resignation is the most pronouced feature about these peasants. They cannot see the cause of their misery, they cannot think politically.

They do not think of protesting against the unfair "maiden tax" raised because a prince's daughter is getting married.

"Lucky in love, unlucky with money." — "True repose of spirit is virtue and mercy." — "The Bible says that a person is a subject of the authority that has power over him."

Pious statements of this type taken from the peasant literature of the nineteenth century — Auerbach, Gellert, Gotthelf, songs and the chronicle where Schlöndorff found his material — illustrate why these people dully accepted their situation and could only dream their dreams of a better life by resorting to irrationalism and wishful thinking.

They persist with their superstitions and their desperate piety, take refuge in treasure-seeking or hopes about the Promised Land of America, they poach and rob.

Schlöndorff does not always manage to integrate the political and sociological background of his story into the narrated events or to convey it in a way that is dramatically plausible.

Sometimes the event and the interpretative commentary run almost parallel and unnoticed and the analysis of the traditional values and their unrestricted effectiveness remains purely verbal.

At one point in the film a school class recites a preposterously stupid folksong about the joys of country life, while the camera pans to a stony field where an old couple and their daughter-in-law are dragging a plough behind them.

Other scenes are more obvious. A woman is slapped on the face for interrupting a conversation. Another woman, fearing for the salvation of her bastard child, is faced with coarse sexuality. The villagers act boorishly with their new-found wealth. And the only one of the arrested men who refuses to repent is brutally threatened by his fellow-detainees with visions of hell. "It's for your own sake," they say.

These scenes show how obediently and perfectly the subjects have taken over and made their own the system that mercilessly exploits them.

The judge's cynical logic fits into this general picture — to find a guilty man you only have to look for new possessions as "a poor man's money arouses suspicion". The most certain argument against the peasants is their misery and it is this that their exploiters use to transfer their own guilt.

Schlöndorff's aggressive robber ballad does not depend on fashionable effects or persistent aestheticism. The actors are mostly lay and continually alternate between High German and Hessian dialect.

Their speech alternates between that used in psychological dramas and the Brechtian-style language of alienation. The acting is both naturalistic and didactic. But the changes in style do not disturb in any way. The visual effect of the film is determined by the long, calm movements of Franz Rath's camera work, corresponding to the simple story being told. Only a few of the dramatic highlights are accentuated by close-ups, quick shifts of position and action photography.

Time and time again the gold waggon passes through the wood past the peasants accompanied by the clear flutes and harp of Klaus Doldinger's music.

This is not an idyll but an unattainable *Fata Morgana*. Schlöndorff has not made a *Heimatfilm* but has corrected the mendacity and revisionism of the usual *Heimatfilm* and unfaithful peasant literature. *Wolf Donner*

(DIE ZEIT, 5 February 1971)

Social criticism is the main theme of Schlöndorff's latest film 'The Sudden Wealth of the Poor People of Kombach' set in 1821 (Photo: Heide Maria Weiss)



A scene from 'Das Freudenhaus' made by Alfred Weidemann based on a novel by Henry Jaeger (Photo: Studio-Film/Inter)

The camera searches critically the whore's world

Henry Jaeger's highly-regarded novel *Das Freudenhaus* (The Brothel), percolated from the steamy vapour of a railway embankment, has everything a film could want.

Whores appear along with their pimps, there are lovers and loved ones, moneymakers and con-men. The scene is a bar with rooms and girls to let on the first and second floors.

Beds seem to burst with love. Other beds are being used busily for trade purposes. Illusion is the destination of all the charactors' love. A book like this is all ready for filming and should be a box-office success, one would think.

There is a great temptation, from a purely visual point of view too, to fit all the popular elements of the novel — a prostitute's tears, the upright "Madame" of the brothel girls, the inner camaraderie of the underground society and all the conventional descriptions of the life of a prostitute — into a prostitute film; about the 4,578th.

Novelist Henry Jaeger himself provided the temptation as he forgoes sentimental reflection and thus shows the film director the vacuum into which sloppiness and manufactured emotions could overflow.

Alfred Weidemann wrote the script and directed the film without succumbing to this temptation — perhaps because he has planned and shot the film in an era when pornography is normal.

At any rate he did not go between Jaeger's lines with his camera. On the contrary, it almost seems as if a laser beam has been painstakingly run over the eleven thousand lines of the novel and has used the impulses gained to bridle the camera and the direction.

The resulting film diverges from Jaeger's novel. That was inevitable. Words, heavy with intention and emotional content, were transposed into pictures that do not follow the logical patterns and aims of the written language. As only the atmosphere could be shown, there was in all a shift of emphasis.

Jaeger criticises society for permitting, and even hypocritically encouraging illegal practices such as occur in the brothel.

In the film the small whore cosmos on the railway embankment is shifted back into middle-class life. With the antithesis of bourgeois adultery in the blind man's family on the one hand and the prostitutes' trade in the rooms of the establishment on the other, the film at least starts to seek a synthesis exemplified in the destructive effect of the loneliness that is common to all: "You've got to have a shoulder to lean on . . ."

Producer Alfred Weidemann does not devote too much time to the fates of particular people. Instead, as the scenes progress, the origins of prostitution from the petty bourgeois becomes increasingly plain.

The run-down brothel is to be found in the suburbs. It is kept going by a number of girls who have been investigated by the police and is run by a reject dog imitator and his wife, a one-time prostitute.

This brothel is gradually revealed to be an integral part of society, even though it might first have been considered as a place for asocial elements.

This shift of position supports the film's social criticism.

Whatever the case, we get the petty bourgeois atmosphere, the emotional yearning for happiness, the sweet kitsch of everyday ecstasy and the search for a reputation. The borders with bourgeois life become more and more effaced.

Ernst W. Kalinke's camera work provided an excellent interpretation of the text, accompanying Karin Jacobsen as Rosa and Herbert Fleischmann as Leopold.

Gisela Peltzer, Gisela Trowe, Paul Edwin Roth and Wolfgang Stumpf also had parts in the film. For scenes on end they produced a teamwork effect that began to consolidate into a remarkable intensity. *Valentin Polcuch*

(DIE WELT, 1 February 1971)

MEDICINE

Loud music can cause stomach ulcers, according to Erlangen medical team

An unusual event recently led to an informative study being drawn up by the Erlangen Medical University Clinic under Professor Ludwig Demling. While dancing to the strains of beat music, a seventeen-year-old girl developed a stomach ulcer which suddenly burst. To discover the effects of music, especially on the production of acidity, Professor Demling and his team subjected 23 human guinea-pigs with an average age of 25 to a musical stomach test. The results may be of some benefit to treatment methods.

Since the epoch-making work of Russian physiologist Ivan Petrovitch Pavlov it has been known for certain that the mind can influence the secretion of gastric juices to a considerable extent.

Since the content of music is largely emotional, as Professor Demling pointed out in his report, it was thought possible that listening to music could induce the mental influences first described by Pavlov.

It has been known for some time that music has a definite influence on the two important physical functions of respiration and circulation.

The final impulse to the Erlangen study was provided by the sudden development of a stomach ulcer in the young girl that was thought to be due to beat music.

It has long been known that music, dependent on melody and volume, has been considered pleasant or unpleasant, especially when it assumes noise characteristics due to its volume.

In order to make definite comparisons between various types of music, the Erlangen team played to the volunteer guinea-pigs Classical works such as Mozart's Linz Symphony and *Eine Kleine Nachtmusik* and Beethoven's 5th Symphony as well as beat music.

To judge the painstaking preparations made by the Erlangen team, the experimental conditions must be known. The guinea-pigs had their stomachs pumped for thirty minutes. Subsequently the normal secretion of gastric juice over a certain period was determined.

Then the music started and each person was subjected to it for thirty minutes. To ensure that the music remained within normal limits, the Erlangen team asked the Bavarian Broadcasting Service for the volumes registered in the middle of a concert hall for various types of music.

While the music was being played the doctors continually took samples of the volunteers' gastric juices and analysed its nature and composition.

Sixty tests were carried out. During 21 of them beat music was played. Mozart was played during twenty and Beethoven's 5th Symphony in 19 of them.

What were the reactions of the guinea-pigs? Ignoring the group that was completely indifferent to all types of music, a quick analysis showed that the differences were not as great as might have been thought.

One relatively small group that reacted to beat music with pronounced indignation secreted less gastric juice than the beat fans. But Professor Demling stated that there was no significant difference.

That also applies to beat fans who secreted only a little less gastric juice than fans of Classical music.

Classical fans who gained aesthetic pleasure from the works of Mozart and Beethoven secreted less gastric juice than people who reacted indifferently to Classical music. But once again there was no great difference between these two groups.

The young girl whose stomach ulcer had burst also took part in the experiment at the Erlangen hospital. She was a special case. Professor Demling stresses that she was a real beat fan. While beat music was being played her secretion of gastric juices was reduced by about two thirds of their normal amount.

The production of gastric juices also went down when *Eine Kleine Nachtmusik* was played, a work that she also knew. But the reduction here was not as persistent as when she listened to beat music.

What useful conclusions can be drawn from these rather confusing-looking findings? What was the value of the Erlangen experiment?

Professor Demling quoted a definition from the well-known labour physiologist Professor Gunther Lehmann – noise is sounds that are felt to be unpleasant and irritating.

Professor Demling therefore concludes that any type of music can disturb or irritate if the physical or mental attitude of the listener is negative.

What this means is immediately made plain on discovering that noise causes a reduction in the secretion of gastric juice and even lowers stomach motility.

The volume of beat music in discotheques usually reaches stage three – over ninety decibels. This was the volume used in Erlangen.

Noise of this intensity causes vascular constriction and other changes in the state of the arteries, especially in people with high blood pressure, causing a reduction in the circulation of blood through the mucous membrane [of the] stomach.

Though this was probably the reason why the teenage girl's ulcer burst, Professor Demling is cautious and conclu[des]: "There may be a connection bet[ween] noise and stomach and duodenal [ulcers] even though a chance concurrence ca[nnot] be ruled out."

The only certain fact up to now s[eems] to be that extremely loud music aid[s the] formation of stomach ulcers while q[uiet] music does not lead to a reduction of circulation of the blood in the s[tomach's] mucous membrane.

The Erlangen clinic believes tha[t this] can act as the basis for the preventio[n and] treatment of stomach ulcers. Prof[essor] Demling summarised the situation.

Beat music played at over n[inety] decibels may cause a lesion of [the] stomach's mucous membrane, along [with] the side-effects this involves, in p[eople] who are particularly susceptible.

The relative effects of beat and cl[assical] music on health involves considerati[on of] whether it is not the volume alone b[ut] so to a lesser extent the melody of music that must be held responsible [for] various stomach disorders.

When observing the reactions of [the] circulation to environmental influence[s of] this type, this hypothesis can be see[n to] have a high degree of probability.

Alfred Pullman

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 28 January 19[71])

Our children eat too much

Medical examinations organised by the Dortmund Research Institute for Child Nutrition on one thousand elementary schoolchildren in the Dortmund area have shown that a quarter of all children aged between six and ten are overfed.

The results cause all the more concern as recent studies have shown that it is precisely in this six to ten year age range that the foundations are laid for adult obesity caused by over-nourishment.

(DER TAGESSPIEGEL, 23 January 1971)



Cardiac diagnosi[s]

New possibilities for doctor[s and] hospitals are opened up by the auto[matic] analysis of electrocardiograms by [com]puter. The doctor is relieved of time[-con]suming routine work. Furthermore, findings provided by the computer [help] greatly with diagnosis. Siemens [has] developed such a system which, h[aving] been successfully tested, is alread[y in] operation. The ECG is taken from [the] patient in the usual way but is t[hen] transmitted directly on to a mag[netic] tape. The reel of tape – holding on a[verage] up to 200 ECGs – passes to the comp[uter] which, with the aid of its stored stan[dard] programme, analyses the stored [ECG] which has been converted into app[roxi]mately 12,300 numerical values. F[inally] the record with the findings is give[n] via a high-speed printer.

(Photo: S[iemens])

SPOTLIGHT

First sports academy set up more than fifty years ago in Berlin



When, over fifty years ago, the German Academy for Physical Training was founded with due ceremony at Berlin's Friedrich Wilhelm University, an idea was put into practice that had already engaged Friesen and Friedrich Ludwig Jahn.

Educationalist Gerhard Anton Ludwieg Vieth had given encouragement to set up a gymnastics club where "those taking most pleasure in gymnstics and those with the most general education" were to cooperate – the modern word is team work – "in the scientific aspects and artistic foundations of gymnastics."

This pioneer of physical education for the young had published his Encyclopaedia of Physical Training as early as 1794 and suggested the foundation of a type of college for physical training.

Friesen put Vieth's idea into practice but his work only lasted a year. The gymnastics academy was buried along with him after his death on the battlefield at La Lobbe where he had fought as one of Lützow's volunteers.

The idea was only taken up again toward the end of the nineteenth century when it was limited exclusively to the medical sphere.

Famous doctors in Italy, France, Germany, Switzerland and North America were dealing with the physiological problems of physical training. In their investigations they tested the new phenomenon of sport and how it could be made to serve therapeutic purposes.

Scientific measurements were first conducted on sportsmen and cinematographic recording taken at the Paris Olympics of 1900.

The most prominent doctors in this field in Germany were M.J. Oertel – "terrain cures" were his speciality – orthopaedist Daniel Schreber, the inventor of allotments, hygienics expert Ferdinand Hueppe, school doctor F.A. Schmidt, anatomist Wilhelm Roux, the internists-cum-physiologists du Boys-Reymond and L. Zuntz, the first person to publish exact scientific work in the field of sport medicine and the prime mover behind military marches with full packs, and finally dermatologist O. Lassar whom Berlin has to thank for its public baths.

There was also the internist and X-ray specialist Fernandus Augustus Smith, who had a mobile surgery for physical therapy in Berlin.

Smith started testing sportsmen as early as 1898 though he did not at first use X-rays that had only just been discovered.

He wished to take X-ray photographs of the heart, measuring its size and finding out the point at which sport became damaging to health. As his yardstick he used the enlargement of the heart which was considered harmful in his days.

In 1906 he was the doctor who accompanied the German team to Athens for the mid-term Olympics. While there he examined a large number of sportsmen and returned to Berlin with extremely valuable findings.

Smith made the demand that sport should be encouraged as a far-reaching health movement. Two of his pupils who later carried out his demands were Arthur Mallwitz and Martin Brustmann, both top-class sportsmen. Mallwitz and Brustmann managed the German teams at the 1908 Olympics in London and the 1912 Olympics in Stockholm.

Smith gave a lot of help to sport medicine in this country while it was still in its infancy. But his main job seems to have been that of an agent for the British secret service. This is what Brustmann believes at any rate.

Shortly after the outbreak of the First World War Dr Smith quietly disappeared to a neutral country and nothing has been heard of him since.

Gradually the wish grew to coordinate the various research work done at a variety of places, especially as there were educational, economic, social and national questions involved as well as medical issues.

These questions made it appear desirable to subject the whole phenomenon of sport to scientific research and investigation.

Voices were raised calling for a central office that could deal methodically whith these questions on the broadest scientific basis and with the means appropriate to a large institute, as was stated in a memorandum dating from 1912 and dealing with the foundation of an institute for sport medicine on the municipal playing fields of the town of Charlottenburg.

One of the first practical steps had been made with the International Health Exhibition in Dresden in 1911. The initiator and organiser of this giant undertaking, a business adviser to *odol* named Lingner, insisted that sport should be given sufficient and due place in the exhibition.

He entrusted Dr Arthur Mallwitz with the setting up and direction of a sport section that also included a laboratory. Tests were then carried out on the top-class sportsmen and gymnasts who came to the games in Dresden during the course of the exhibition.

A number of laboratories of this type were now to be built. This venture was to be undertaken by the Association for the Scientific Investigation of Sport and Physical Training that was composed of leading men from the economy, medicine, technology, trade, industry and the army.

The laboratory at Charlottenburg already mentioned served as a model for further institutes of this type. The first conference of sport doctors in Oberhof in 1912, attended by many branches of medicine, provided further impetus.

The German Imperial Olympic Games Committee took up these ideas. The new German Olympic stadium in Grunewald, Berlin, was suitable for "thorough examinations of this type" and as a "place where causes and effects could be examin-

In May 1914 a scientific research station was set up there in the form of a medical laboratory. In previous years courses to train sports instructors had already been held at the stadium under Alwin Kraenzlein, a German-American and the trainer of the German Olympic team.

The application to set up the laboratory had been made by the German Swimming Association, the German Cyclists Association and the German Sporting Authority for Athletics.

Of course the war brought an end to the work before it had really begun but that does not mean that the whole project was abandoned. In 1917 a meeting of the Reich Committee – most of its members had hastened back from the battlefield to Berlin – accepted Carl Diem's proposal to set up a scientific research station, more than just a laboratory, in the Deutsches Stadion to investigate the effects of physical training on health.

A year later the competition committee of the Reich committee had already received a detailed working programme for the new institute though this dealt only with the purely sporting aspect.

The German Ice Skating Association and the Ski Association went a step further by proposing that the research station should also start to compile a list of gymnastic and sporting terms. This had already been done with military jargon.

Linguistic research in the physical training sphere was considered equally as important as the practical and scientific research of sport and gymnastics.

At the same time it was proposed that *books dealing with physical training* should be collected together and included in a large comprehensive sports library that was to be founded.

It can be seen that not even the war could stop those people responsible for sport in Germany from continuing to devote all their energy to proposals to establish an academy for physical training.

The decisive step was then taken immediately the war was ended at a meeting of the Competition Committee of the German Reich Committee for Physical Training, as the Reich Committee was called after 1917.

The prime movers were the representatives of the German Swimming Association, Hax, the German Academic League for Physical Training, Mallwitz and Wiedemann, the German Ski Association, Schneider, and the German Ice Skating Association, Schöning.

They asked the Reich Committee to "take up the idea of founding an academy for physical training, to campaign for it and intercede for it in educational administrations, at universities and in teaching circles."

By 3 October 1919 the final move was made. An executive session of the Reich Committee in the Ministry for Home Affairs finally decided that there should be a German Academy for Physical Training.

The Academy was to a) train instructors for physical training and b) do scientific research on all laws concerning the theory, practice and history of physical training.

Before the new academy was opened Theodor Lewald, the head of the Reich Committee for Physical Training, went to see the Prussian Minister of Education.

His aim was to persuade Prussia to unite the Prussian State Gymnastics Institute with the newly-founded academy and make a large institute out of the two bodies.



Professor Wildor Hollmann
(Photo: Pfeil)

The Reich, the Prussian government and the independent associations for physical training were all to have equal participation in the institute's structure, control and organisation.

Considering that both institutions had the same aim, that would have been the most sensible solution. But even the tempting idea of uniting all bodies into a united educational institute could not move the Prussian government to approve the proposal.

On the contrary, it was quite discourteous and emphasised the fact that the new academy, "as a private educational institution within Prussia, ... needs the permission of the Prussian state and is subject to its supervision. We suggest that a corresponding written application should be handed in as soon as possible. This will be examined with *goodwill*."

This was not very encouraging. The controversy between the Prussian academy and the Reich Committee academy had done a lot of damage to both institutions, as much as Diem always tried to avoid controversy. But the gymnasts would not be taught.

The new academy was therefore set up without the support of the state of Prussia. But the Reich supported all its efforts.

This could be seen in the fact that President Friedrich Ebert attended the opening at the Friedrich Wilhelm University where the academy was founded. He also expressed his interest in later years and was always ready to back the new research department.

Another great advantage was the fact that the first rector was August Bier, the famous Berlin surgeon with whom Diem had already had strange dealings.

Diem had sent a petition to the Kaiser requesting the introduction of Olympic trials at schools and in the armed forces. The talent spotting scheme also planned to find runners for the 400 and 1,500 metres. This was to serve as an excuse for the advisers in the Prussian Education Ministry, which was not very well-disposed to the cause of sport anyway, to reject the application.

Races over these distances were declared harmful to health by a scientific commission set up by the Ministry. The report bore the signatures of three leading doctors – Bier, Rubner and Kraus.

The fact that Dr Kraus had signed the report was particularly annoying as he had been the chairman of the Sport Doctors Congress in Oberhof.

A counter-memorandum was drawn up but the war put an end to all controversy.

The matter was brought up again during the war when the pre-military training for schoolchildren was discussed.

Continued on page 10

New appointment for Professor Körbs

Professor Werner Körbs has just been elected head of the Cologne sporting academy by the academy's board of directors.

Professor Körbs succeeds Professor Wildor Hollmann. Dr Eberhard Uhlig, the professor of psychology, had previously turned down the appointment.

In the final vote between Professor Körbs and Professor Liselott Diem the former received 50 votes and Professor Diem only 27.

(DIE WELT, 5 February 1971)

■ THE ECONOMY

CDU plans for automated economics are clearly preposterous

DIE ZEIT

The Christian Democrats have discovered a taste for an "active industrial and economic policy". They are going to work from accurate figures and *do* what the guardians of the Holy Grail of private enterprise considered *undoable* just a few years ago.

The party to which Ludwig Erhard belongs and which even today considers the mathematics of modern economic affairs policies anathema calls for an industrial and economic policy "that serves the cause of new stabilising elements and acts according to strict regulations in all it does" in the new version of its party political programme.

This new attitude is not only remarkable in that it has been expressed by a party whose attitude towards economic affairs policies in the past was always guided by one firm rule, namely that there should be no firm rules!

Even more interesting than this is that a party which considers itself to be conservative should have set itself an aim which no one has so far been able to accomplish.

For the firm rules to which the industrial and economic policy are to be subjected are essentially Utopian.

Certainly the demand made in the CDU programme is based on a realisation to *which scarcely anyone in this country* will want to close their mind, namely that industrial and economic policies today are still a game of chance.

The only difference between these policies now and in the past is that now politicians are risking playing the game.

But still no one is able to say what the result of this game will be. The politician specialising in economic affairs today is still like the old sea-dog who licks his finger and holds it up to see which way the wind is blowing. The only difference is that the old salt generally gets an accurate reading!

This is not meant to be a criticism of Karl Schiller who has livened up discussions on the possibilities and limitations of industrial and economic policies and has probably learnt a lot himself on this score since he has been at the Economic Affairs Ministry.

There are difficulties facing the Economic Affairs Minister as well as the Opposition in the Bundestag.

There are no exact data to say what should be done for industry and the economy at a certain stage of the economic cycle. Nor is there any accurate way of telling when this stage of the economic cycle has "arrived".

If the Bundesbank applies a credit squeeze its plans may come a cropper because money floods in from investors abroad taking advantage of the high interest rates.

If the government and the Bundesbank take steps to cool down an economic boom they risk cramping industrial investment plans and hauling the economy straight from the boom into recession.

These are current examples that can be greatly augmented by digging into the treasure chest of experiences gained in the past few years.

No one has yet forgotten the arguments of 1969 about whether the Mark should be revalued. This was not attacked by the lobbyists of Federal Republic economic circles because it would not have helped cool down the boom, but because "there can be no question of the conomy being overheated", as the banker Herman Josef Abs said in March 1969!

In the light of our experiences with freely calculated economic policies the call for firm rules seems quite understandable. Among other things that those in favour approve of in the system is that the Bundestag has to draw on economic indicators that have been decided upon in advance when making decisions on matters such as the levels of taxation and government expenditure.

These indicators are made up of considerations such as the level of employment, delivery dates in industry, levels of orders in hand, prices and the balance of payments.

Economic stabilisation legislation, which neither the government nor the Opposition considers the last word in wisdom, would have to be extended to take account of a number of relative facts and figures.

This legislation would also have to make provision for those times when the government refused to take a decision because of lack of economic insight or because it might have an adverse effect on a forthcoming election.

In the main this vision of the future is more amusing than serious. Political decisions would be delegated to "regulating mechanisms coming into play automatically" and this would mean that the representatives of the people elected by the people would lose all their responsibilities and be relegated to the position of robots.

Is anyone going to deny that 'robots' would destroy their 'master' soon as he made them do something unpopular with an important election on the horizon (and when isn't there important election on the horizon?)

In fact what might have been taken advice from an expert locked up in ivory tower was actually put forward serious suggestion by delegates at recent CDU party political conference.

Actually they did not express all consequences of their economic policy bound by fixed rules in their programme but those few people in the know at conference realised. They have been discussing it in the CDU for years!

What value these economic indicators really have, even those in the know in the CDU only realise in vague terms. The fact that the statistics for unemployed workers and vacant jobs are a sensitive economic barometer is something that everybody who watches the economic scene closely says. *How* sensitive this barometer is and *what* it actually shows nobody can say. The same applies to much of the rest of the data that the CDU would like to feed into the economic computer and much of this cannot be applied in time to be of any use.

It is unjust to object that it takes time to study such data and that it will also be analysed in good time. That is as may be. But economic researches as we know them do not give rise to any great hopes on this score.

If one day we are able to read this data like tealeaves instead of splitting hairs about it and getting nowhere, then the electronic brain which the CDU (and, it is said, certain members of the government coalition too) want to install in the Economic Affairs Ministry will already be superfluous.

Dieter Piel

(DIE ZEIT, 5 February 1971)

Bundestag economic debate dodges the vital issue

If the recent debate in the Bundestag about the annual economic report for 1971 had been more to the point and less an occasion for making rhetorical addresses to the assembled millions about economic affairs policies the writer of this article would be a happier man.

But there was nothing matter-of-fact about the discussions. It was far more a matter of the Bonn coalition and the Opposition passing the buck to each other for the less agreeable economic developments, such as rising prices, coupled with claims for laurels for the more pleasing factors!

Pleasing factors were certainly in abundance in the economic year under review. There was full employment and an increase in prosperity as measured by the rise in actual purchasing power, with high wage and salary increases more than matching rising prices.

Just who can claim the honours for these pleasing factors, what dangers are still lurking around the corner and how these can be counteracted, were the points that were so hotly debated.

There are grave doubts about how useful such discussions are. Professor Giersch, the head of the Kiel Institute for International Economics, for example, said in his speech on the occasion of the hundredth anniversary celebrations of the Chambers of Commerce and Industry that in his opinion: "... questions concerning industry and the economy and practical economic affairs policies discussed in public make excessive demands and the returns do not justify this."

He added: "The more we analyse the history of the industrial sector of the economy, the more aware we become that specific policies only aggravate pressures rather than alleviating them."

His scepticism was well founded if the recent debate in the Bundestag can be taken as an example. Blame, arguments for and against, counter-arguments etcetera are all well known.

Even Ludwig Erhard five years ago implored unions and industrialists to exercise discipline in wages and prices in order to bring about stability. In 1971 Karl Schiller did the same thing in practically the same words. Then as now recommendations were being made to both sides of industry concerning the lines along which they should work.

And then as now it was well known in the government camp that a stable level of prices with wage increases bringing increasing demand was a beautiful illusion.

Erhard's appeal for moderation and the scornful reaction of the then opposition are still clearly remembered. Now, under Schiller, the act is being repeated but the roles have been reversed.

The measured economic growth that Prof. Schiller talked about at first has become the more modest centre line by means of which real growth will be held back by price increases and full employment will be guaranteed, but there will still be a sufficient profit margin to enable essential investments to be made.

For investments are a very important part of the picture if the economy is to grow and full employment be maintained without prices rising disastrously.

These factors are all intertwined in a free enterprise economy and the present government feels itself responsible for this 'social free market economy'. 'Social' is not an alienating word, but involves demands and responsibilities. It does not mean that every social welfare claim must be met, however.

Chancellor Brandt said that any reforms must have full financial backing and must not place too great a burden on the economy. This does not mean he is going to lower his sights with regard to the programme of social welfare reform but it does show the limitations that may have to be imposed.

But even Willy Brandt did not give a clear answer to Gerhard Stoltenberg (CDU) when asked for a "concise and clear concept of economic affairs policies."

But what government is going to commit itself so far when its own broad outlines with regard to appraising the economic situation and future developments are not clearly drawn and Karl Schiller and Alex Möller seem to be standing alone in the positions they take up?

Fritz Litt

(Kieler Nachrichten, 3 February 1971)

First sports academy

Continued from page 9

A doctor objected to a 200 metres race and referred to the fateful report.

Dr Bier therefore came into contact with Diem who was also opposed to this nonsense and the great doctor freely admitted that the report had been drawn up by the head of the Prussian State Gymnastics Institute and not by the doctors who had merely signed it in good faith.

After this frank statement Dr Bier took more and more interest in sport and in scientific research into sport. As an outsider he called for an academy of physical training and did a lot towards its foundation.

In his rector's address on 15 May 1920, over fifty years ago, he stated that the aims of the academy were of particular interest to medicine, education, philosophy, history, administration, economics, technology and art.

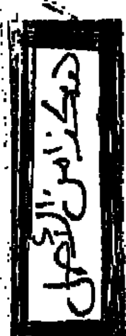
He said, "It is an omission in our universities that the scientific research and scientific operation of sport is not a fully valid and equally entitled subject." Unfortunately this omission still has not been remedied.

These were the problems surrounding the birth of an academy that was without equal in history, represented something completely novel and developed under Carl Diem's direction into an institution that was famous far beyond the borders of Germany, as Professor Wildor Hollmann, the present rector of the Sporting Academy in Cologne, recently stated, with justification.

Up to now the Sporting Academy has concentrated on preparing students for their future job of physical training instructor. If it also encourages the training of sports scientists in future, full scientific recognition will only be a matter of time.

Walther F. Kleffel

(DIE ZEIT, 22 January 1971)



■ FARMING

Agricultural surplusses make cutbacks essential

Unrest is bubbling just below the surface in the agricultural sector and occasionally a disturbance breaks out, sometimes because officials have fanned the flames of the farmers' anger and indignation.

Tractors have been sent into the centre of big cities to block the traffic in a demonstration calling for higher prices for farm produce.

Members of the government have been severely criticised by the farmers who believe they are being left in the lurch. They feel they are the scapegoats of the industrial society and are the national lamb being led to the slaughter, sacrificed on the altar of European unity.

What must be done to spread contentment among the members of the farming community and what rational steps can be taken in the agricultural sector?

Generally speaking farmers would be content if the economic and social significance of their profession increased and their share of the gross national product grew. Then we would buy their products "fresh from the country" at the highest prices.

But things are vastly different in reality. As wages and incomes rise people are spending *less* on those commodities that are being produced to excess by our farmers.

At the same time processing, transport and marketing are taking a bigger and bigger slice of the price that the retailer charges. This is a situation from which agriculture can only extricate itself by pruning farmworkers and farms.

This is a process that has been going on for years. More and more farmworkers are leaving the land and finding jobs elsewhere. The number of farms is declining. In the meantime politicians have agreed that this is a process that should not be halted, but must be encouraged.

Many farmers will have to face the fact that they must give up their profession. The only point on which there can be any argument is how fast the process should be carried out. The faster it happens the better for those farmers who stay on the land since their per capita income will increase.

Demands for higher prices for agricultural produce would therefore peter out.

But the best chance to get more money for agricultural produce is if this process of conversion is coupled with a reduction in production capacity. Trees can be planted on ploughed land to turn it into a holiday area, for instance.

This would mean that supply would increase at a slower rate, which is from the point of view of the food market the essential requirement for higher prices.

What members of the agricultural front are claiming and too many people are repeating parrot-fashion about prices for agricultural produce being pegged because of market regulations is simply untrue.

With the exception of the price of drinking milk at the dairy almost all prices could be raised at will. This last regulation was dropped on 1 February and the price of milk is no longer controlled.

If the prices that farmers actually get are not as much in excess of the minimum or recommended prices fixed by the EEC as they would like the reason is precisely because of overproduction. As has already been said excessive production pushes prices down.

Cutting down production, which is absolutely essential on a free agricultural market in the face of relatively low demand, is of course a dead certain method of counteracting this tendency.

Stepping up the pace in this direction does pose some problems, however. Up until now it has been workers in the employ of farmers, and members of farming families that have been quitting the land. Now it is time for the farmers themselves to start leaving.

Uprooting them overnight is hardly possible. The changeover requires time, particularly as new jobs must be created on the land.

In addition to this the uncertainty about the policies other EEC countries will pursue is acting as a barrier. Farmers in the Federal Republic would think they had been led up the garden path if they made the necessary structural changes to farming in this country and our partners in Europe did not follow suit.

They would simply be leaving the field open for competition and their own position would be scarcely any better. Official sources in France have said that there is an idea afoot to increase production there.

A uniform policy for the agricultural structure within the EEC is essential, or failing that a special commission to lay down guidelines. The withdrawal of farmers and farmworkers to other jobs must proceed at an even keel in all Common Market countries. Otherwise the call for a purely national agricultural policy in this country could endanger the Six.

This is especially true considering that the room for manoeuvre with regard to price increases is greater on a national plane. The overproduction that keeps prices low is, for the most part, the fault of our partners in the EEC.

This is something that must be borne in mind if, as seems likely, certain EEC guaranteed prices are raised in the near future.

Considering that these excesses of wheat, butter and sugar and the like and the cost of storing them and disposing of them, which is State subsidised, are

Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger

becoming more expensive liabilities, the motivations behind the increased prices are likely to be political rather than economic.

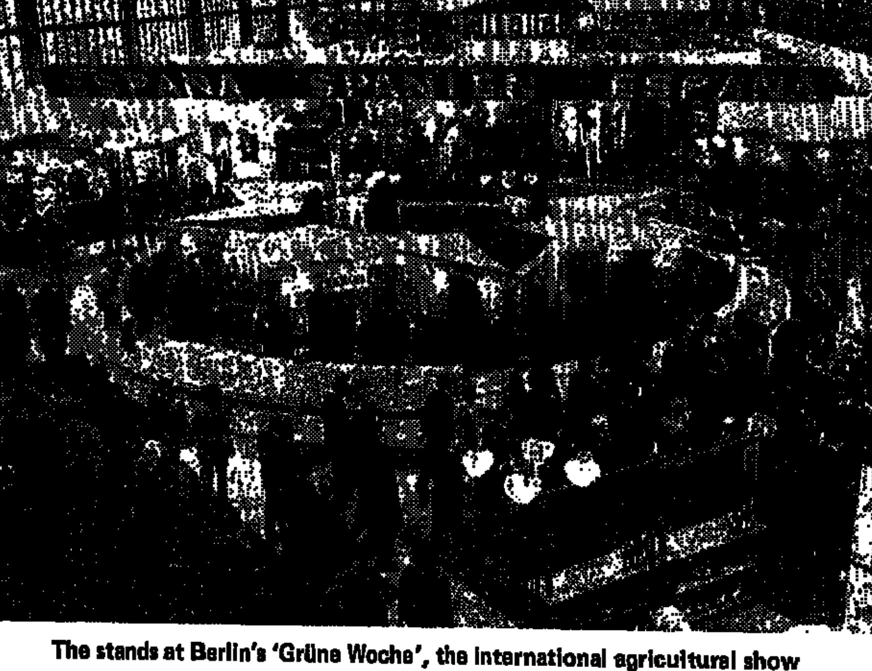
We should be very careful about making price concessions to farmers designed to fool them into thinking they can all make a good living from their profession.

This would mean continued over-productivity and the taxpayer would have to carry the extra buden. While the danger of excessive agricultural production remains, prices must be kept low so that farmers are encouraged to make the necessary structural changes.

This is something that has to be broken gently to farmers so that they do not get the impression that there is a campaign against them to stop them sharing in the nation's prosperity.

Gerhard Meyenburg

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 4 February 1971)



The stands at Berlin's 'Grüne Woche', the international agricultural show (Photo: dpa)

Biggest and brightest 'Grüne Woche'

The biggest and best Grüne Woche ("Green Week"), Berlin's agricultural show, was opened on the evening of 28 January by Minister of Agriculture Josef Ertl at the Kongresshalle.

This year's Grüne Woche was more than ever for the expert and a number of agricultural experts from this country and abroad came to Berlin to see the latest methods for coping with problems of modern agriculture.

A new organisation had been formed to organise trade fairs in Berlin, the Ausstellungs-Messe-Kongress GmbH, Berlin, (AMK) and their activities got off to a flying start with this successful exhibition.

This international show offered the Berliners their food, glorious food, and gave the experts a wide range of new ideas about food production.

The consumer's film competition that was run prior to the *Grüne Woche* in the Kongresshalle was a useful contribution to the event since it was aimed at laymen and experts alike.

One again developments with regard to agricultural production costs and the level of prices the consumer has to pay were at the centre of *Grüne Woche* discussions.

It is clear that the return for farmers must be improved if the prosperity gap between town and country dwellers is not to be opened up even wider. But it is also clear that more must be done to improve the structure of agriculture if the increase in producer prices, which would have to be decided by the European Council of Ministers, is to have any point.

The Federal Republic Farmers' Association and its President Freiherr Constantin Heereman have enough insight to come out strongly in favour of agriculture's helping itself out of its difficulties, so that initiative on the part of the farmer is not neglected in the hope of State aid.

Grüne Woche showed how far it is possible to rationalise and embark on cooperative ventures in agriculture with the aid of machinery, data-processing centres for business management advice and retraining institutes.

In this way and with optimum usage of State structural aid it is possible to prevent farmers reaping a "negative harvest" which is left to rot in barns and skilled farmers and hands ultimately leaving the land for more financially rewarding jobs.

Tightly-knit farmers' cooperatives are another way in which farmers can strengthen their position on the market.

The second catchphrase that goes alongside "structural improvement" is "aggressive marketing". It is no good producing commodities that pass by the needs of the consumer. But more than this, the farmers specifically want to keep abreast of the state of the market and therefore avoid the expensive and psychologically disastrous excessive production of items, such as butter and milk.

Millions are available for agriculture to help in sales promotion, largely from the resources of the Ministry of Agriculture in Bonn and the Federal state ministries. This is of course taxpayers' money, but *there are also the contributions from* farmers themselves to marketing companies.

It is sensible to spend money on a coordinated and far-reaching marketing concept, but senseless to divide up the funds and use them for various projects that run contrary to each other.

The Central Marketing Company of the Federal Republic economy's agricultural sector campaigns on the one hand with its "eat better" slogan, and aims to place less emphasis on the individual areas noted for the production of, for instance, bacon, eggs or milk.

The Schleswig-Holstein Marketing Company, which has been working successfully for a long time, and the Marketing Company of Lower Saxony are more for promoting a regional image.

Contrary ideas such as this are promoted by money that has come largely from the taxpayers. The rule must be in future: cooperative work on marketing and consultations between the various companies is in; competitive and contrary schemes are out.

Otherwise this country's agriculture will not be able to fight off the growing competition from abroad.

Other countries are not sleeping on the job as was made quite clear by *Grüne Woche*. The Netherlands are tightening up and modernising their already exemplary agricultural set-up.

Denmark is preparing to step up the pace and make up lost ground on the Federal Republic and West Berlin markets after entering the Common Market. And the United States, which is not at all happy about the protectionism of the EEC, is making an extra effort to make its mark on the European market.

The "green week" actually lasted ten days, during which time visitors could sample, eat and enjoy themselves. Many agricultural problems can be studied more easily by putting them on exhibition in this way.

(Telegraf, 29 January 1971)

■ TECHNOLOGY

The current that comes in from the cold

How is electric power to be supplied to the super-cities of the future? There is already no way through the sea of houses for high-voltage wires overhead and conventional cables occupy virtually all the available space below street level. Yet demand doubles once a decade.

One solution would be a drastic increase in the load capacity of the present cables and superconduction could provide the answer.

In 1911 when Dutch physicist Kammerlingh Onnes discovered that at a temperature of 1.4 degrees above absolute zero (minus 273 degrees centigrade) mercury filament suddenly loses all resistance to electric current his fellow-scientists were duly impressed and Onnes, a professor at Leiden University, was awarded the Nobel Prize.

Superconductivity, as he called his discovery, nonetheless remained a scientific curiosity for decades.

Handling liquid helium, which boils at 4.2 Kelvin, a scale used by physicists to denote temperatures immediately above absolute zero, and is indispensable for experiments in superconductivity, put them off.

Not until a number of physicists began to use more and more powerful electromagnets in their experiments, making coils out of superconductive wire that made do with next to no current yet proved sufficiently reliable despite helium cooling, did electrical engineers start to find the phenomenon more interesting.

To begin with there were plans to use superconductive elements as storage cells and switches in computers but setbacks in standardised manufacture of these cells and the progress made in the rival sphere of semiconductor electronics nipped developments in the bud.

Then high-voltage specialists remembered the principle of superconductivity. In generators, motors, transformers and networks power is lost via the friction of electric current, an often substantial amount of energy being lost to the atmosphere in the form of heat.

At the moment electrical engineers are trying to reduce the kilowatt-hour loss in all these instances by means of passing current through conductors immersed in liquid helium and so virtually free from resistance.

Physicists have provided valuable assistance since initially the only superconductors available lost their ideal properties as soon as they came into contact with a relatively weak magnetic field.

The flow of current in the superconductor itself generates a magnetic field, though, so even at low currents the conductive properties of superconductors are cancelled out. The material then functions merely as a normal conductor and the desired effect goes by the board.

Construction of superconductive cables being examined at the Slemens laboratory in Erlangen (Photo: Siemens)

Now clearly conversion to superconductivity is going to prove best suitable for one component rather than another and the most likely candidate at first glance would seem to be the transformer.

It is simply constructed, has no moving parts and is small enough for a helium cooling plant to keep the temperature at roundabout absolute zero. Current is needed to operate the cooling plant, but less than is normally lost in a conventional transformer.

The cooling plant needed for a 125,000-kilowatt transformer, it is estimated, will use 150 kilowatts of current, as opposed to the loss otherwise sustained of 625 kilowatts.

This saving does not seem to be anything to write home about. The main advantage would seem to be the possibility of manufacturing smaller superconductive components.

The saving in size is particularly important as regards transport. At present transformers with a capacity of more than 800,000 kilowatts cannot be conveyed by rail. The Bundesbahn cannot cope with the size more powerful conventional units would have to be.

Larger or rather more powerful transformers are needed, though, since the matching generators now come in sizes of anything up to 1.6 million kilowatts.

Superconductors can also be put to good effect in generators. In conventional three-phase current generators a rotor that is virtually nothing more than an electromagnet is plied with direct current. This is a job at which superconductors can really reign supreme.

Superconductors generate a more powerful magnetic field without the constructor having to increase the size and weight of the rotor. Experts reckon that superconductive generators of more than 100,000 kilowatts are more economic than the conventional variety. Models generating up to fifty kilowatts are already in operation.

The same is true of motors. The small mass of a non-ferrous rotor makes high rev counts and weight to performance ratios possible, which is potentially of considerable importance for, say, locomotives.

For the time being, though, superconductor motors will probably be large, stationary aggregates. In Britain a prototype already develops 3,250 horse power for a water pump.

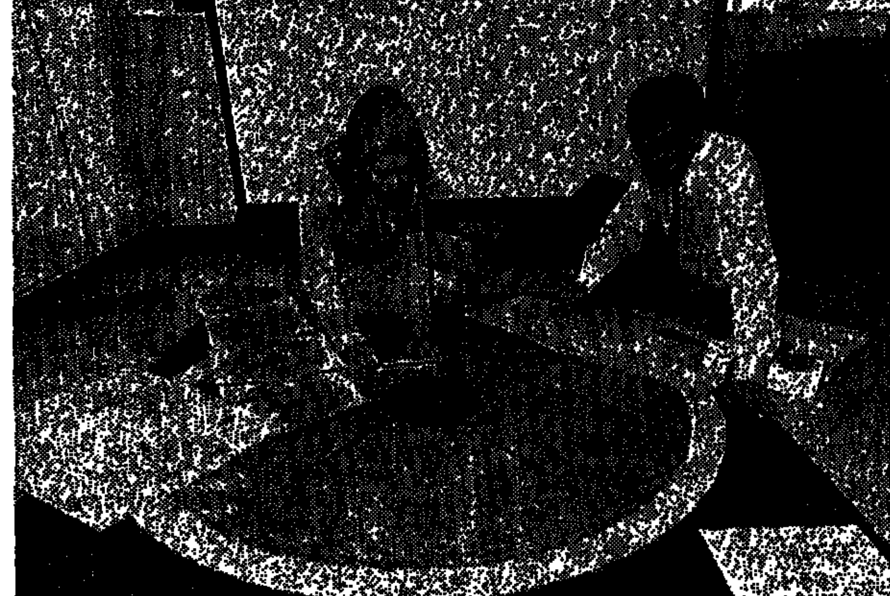
The need to pack more power into a smaller space is more important still in the case of cables. Overhead exposed wires remain a more economic proposition than coated cables of any kind, costing eighty to 95 per cent less to run, but there is so little room to spare in built-up areas that pylons are out of the question.

Conventional cables of the required capacity, on the other hand, are so expensive that the change-over to superconductors is by no means such a challenging prospect from the financial point of view.

Superconductive cables containing not only current but also liquid helium as a coolant still present engineers with a number of problems, though. A variety of proposals have been made. They include an experimental cable section on which Siemens are working.

Electrical engineers are also experimenting with metals cooled by liquid nitrogen and hydrogen, the boiling points of which are 77 and twenty degrees Kelvin respectively.

Heinz W. Dieckmann
(Handelsblatt, 5 February 1971)



Nuclear jigsaw puzzles

These are by no means as easy to solve as they look. Close examination of used fuel elements and rods provide valuable information on the accuracy of design assumptions. Research scientists at Grosswelzheim nuclear research centre are here seen evaluating a photo of a spent rod from a steam-cooled breeder reactor enlarged to 150 times its original size. (Photo: AEG-Telefunken)



Ion implantation tempers steel

Completely new and exotic al[loys] result from the bombardment [of] certain metals with ions, electrically charg[ed] atoms that have lost their electrons.

Surface bombardment with ions [pro]duces alloy surfaces, alloys of metals [that] do not normally combine, or can do [under] certain circumstances.

This process, named ion implantation, is proving of great interest in materials research as a means of influencing material properties.

Enforced alloys of this kind can [not] only produce completely new materials. As the ion beam can be trained [on] specific surfaces with uncommon preci[sion] and the depth of penetration can [be] varied by means of varying the ene[rgy] employed extremely subtle results can [be] achieved.

Professor Michael Thompson deals [with] interesting aspects of ion implantation procedures in a recent *New Scientist*.

The most obvious use to which [the] procedure can be put is in the field [of] semiconductor manufacture. The proper[ties] required of a semiconductor [are] induced by a calculated dosage of for[eign] bodies.

According to development work ca[rried] out so far this prospect would, howe[ver,] appear to be limited because semicon[duc]tor crystals are extraordinarily sensi[tive] to corpuscular radiation likely to de[stroy] their lattice.

Ion bombardment, that is, could ea[sily] affect the structure of the crystals. So [the] densityof bombardment must as a rule [be] very carefully and sparingly dosed [...]

Normal metals, on the other hand, [are] impervious to even a high rate of bo[m]bardment. Several per cent of lead i[ons] can be bombarded into aluminium, f[or] instance, to form an alloy of the two - even though the two do not normall[y] combine.

Systematic research work is curre[ntly] in progress in many countries to deter[]mine what new materials and surfaces [can] be created by means of ion implantati[on,] which, let it be added, is by no means [an] inexpensive business.

At present only a few sectors [hold] forth promise of deriving benefit f[rom] the process.

By means of enrichment of the surfa[ce] of finished items with alien ions [a] considerable increase in mechanical toughness can be achieved. The surface expands to produce a tension that, as recently reported in *Naturwissenschaften* the scientific journal, can radically al[ter] the properties of glass.

Ion implantation also seems likely [to] prove useful in influencing other proper[]ties of materials. Surface tempering [of] steel by means of nitration could, f[or] instance, be carried out with far greater precision by means of implantation.

This is of the greatest importance fo[r] items that are subject to heavy wear a[nd] tear, turbine blades, for instance.

By means of specific carbon ion im[]plantation, on the other hand, ste[el] surfaces combining a high degree of bo[th] firmness and toughness can be induced.

Non-corrosive uranium can be produc[]ed by bombarding uranium items wi[th] argon ions, as experiments have prove[d]. Normally uranium oxydises within [a] matter of minutes when exposed to t[he] atmosphere but the surface remains [un]changed for months after bombardment with argon ions.

Superconductive alloys, it would seem, can also be induced to order by means o[f] ion implantation.

This alone could well make an interest[]ing sector of materials research even more interesting and make loss-free transport of electric power by means of deep-frozen cables a more practical proposition.

Harald Steinert
(DIE WELT, 29 January 1971)

■ OUR WORLD

Sauna bathing increases in popularity

Sauna baths are no longer the preserve of the Finns. There are more than one million people in the Federal Republic who regularly take a sauna bath, either at one of the 2,500 public baths or in a home-sauna.

There are already 18,000 home-saunas in the Federal Republic. The number is increasing by 3,000 or 4,000 every year.

Sauna baths fill a genuine need. They are an extremely pleasurable experience. Two hours in a sauna makes you feel like a new person.

There is no mystique about it. The name 'sauna' means nothing more than "hole in the ground" and the point of a sauna bath is that it tones up the body, stimulates and accelerates certain body processes.

The temperature can go as high as one hundred degrees centigrade in a sauna. This hot air is good for the body in that it is dry enough to evaporate much of the sweat on the skin. Evaporation leads to cooling, of course, so the skin temperature is never much above forty degrees centigrade (104 Fahrenheit).

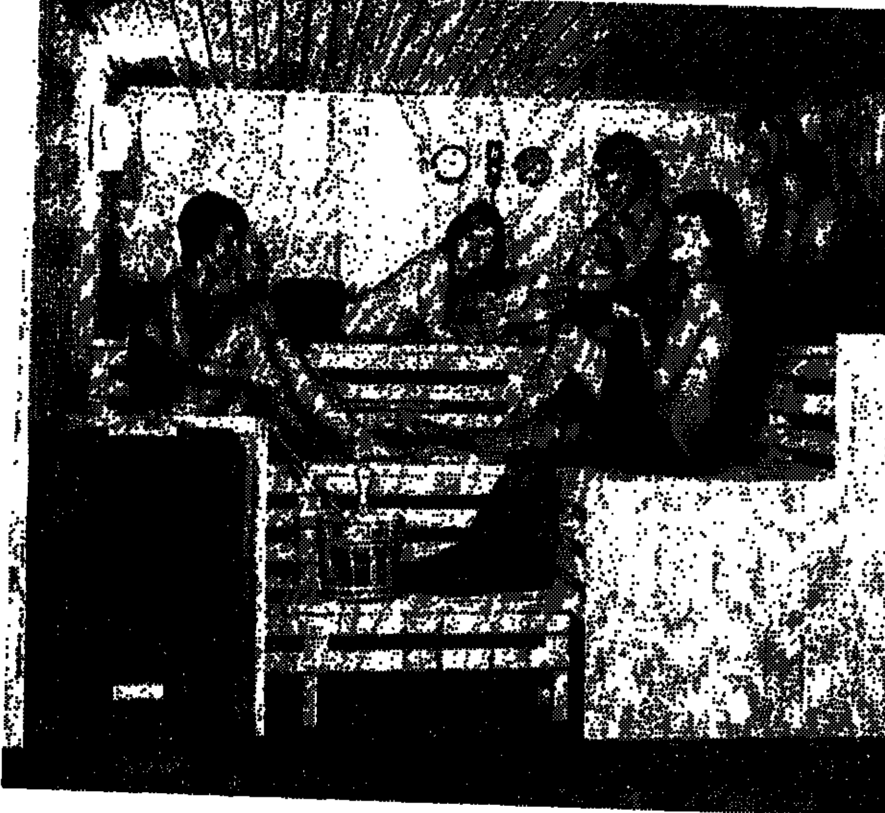
On the other hand, forty centigrade is about ten degrees C higher than normal and so the metabolism of the skin is speeded up. This is not only of cosmetic value, but also helps to increase the body's resistance.

While you are sitting relaxing in a sauna the body temperature also rises by 0.5 to 1.5 degrees centigrade. This stored up heat means that when you leave the hot sauna you can stand winter coldness much more readily. A plunge into cold-water is not so unpleasant since the body does not feel this coldness so much.

It is essential to go out into cold air after a sauna so that the overheated bronchial passages can cool down again and fill the blood with oxygen. Someone once worked out that one hour in a sauna was virtually the equivalent of a 3,000 metre run (something under two miles).

Dehydration during a sauna bath is high and about one litre (somewhat under two pints) of fluid can be lost from the body. Most of the weight lost during the sauna bath is in the form of water and waste products. Much of it can be recouped in the next few meals, however, for those who are not overweight. For those who want to lose weight by sauna bathing it is essential to couple it with a diet.

Fallacies are widespread about sauna baths being a danger to the heart. Certainly the pulse may go up by fifty per cent during a sauna. But the heart's extra work is carried out under the most beneficial conditions. Veins and arteries become dilated and the resistance the heart meets as its pumps out blood is greatly lessened. Its work in fact becomes easier.



Better health with a home sauna (Photo: Klafs)

Another beneficial effect is that the coronary arteries which feed the heart become greatly dilated in a sauna bath.

People with heart conditions whose work places great stress and strain on them should take sauna baths to keep fit. The only precaution that people with heart and kidney complaints should take is in the cooling-off process. It is not advisable for them to plunge into the cold bath. They should just have a little cold water thrown on them and then wash their feet in warm water.

Sauna baths put people in a good mood; but why? The exhilarating effect of heat and cold affects the circulation and the nervous system. At the same time the suprarenal glands are stimulated which brings about a simulation of stress. The body then switches on its anti-stress defence system which brings about a sense of relaxation.

What is needed to make a sauna bath? First of all a room made of wood and heated by a stove. In this country these come mainly as prefabricated units or are built into a house, whereas in Finland they are usually in the form of a blockhouse made of logs.

The walls and ceiling are made of suitable kinds of wood such as spruce from the Nordic forests or hemlock-wood from Canada. The walls and ceiling must be well isolated to prevent heat loss. Between the wood and the layer of isolating material there should be a barrier against water vapour made of aluminium foil.

Benches in the sauna should be at different levels so that you can take advantage of the variations in temperature that occur. Obviously the benches must be made of a wood that does not splinter! Poplar or African abachi is suitable.

Most modern saunas are electrically heated. Special stoves with heated stones are used. From time to time a little water is thrown on them to moisturise the atmosphere.

The Federal Republic Sauna Federation in Bielefeld warns people not to have a sauna made by a do-it-yourself enthusiast nor to try to do it themselves. This is not because the recognised manufacturers have a monopoly that must be protected, but because people can do themselves a lot of harm with poorly constructed saunas.

At the very least the wood used in a sauna bath must be 14 millimetres thick. The isolating material should be of top quality and at least 50 millimetres thick. If not the sauna bath could cause damage to other parts of the house.

There are certainly enough types of sauna bath on the Federal Republic market with about sixty manufacturers vying with each other. The leading manufacturer is Erich Klafs in Schwäbisch-Hall which sold more than 2,000 units last year. Depending on size and quality a sauna bath costs between 2,000 and 6,000 Marks.

For one family a small bath is sufficient. A popular family sauna is 2 x 2 metres. The cooling off room is a further six to eight square metres. Many houses with a cellar can find room for such a sauna.

If the cellar is not large enough to take even a sauna of this size there is no objection to building the heat room and dispensing with the cooling off room with the idea of going outside into the fresh air immediately after taking a sauna. If the family has a garden this is the best but if not they can get their breath at the cellar door or by standing at an open window and taking deep gulps of air.

For people who live in blocks of flats one of the best places for a sauna is at the top as long as there is a door out to the roof.

We know from experience that it is not good for people to breathe air that is too humid. For this reason it is essential that the sauna room be well ventilated. In the sauna itself bad air is cooled off on the floor and must be drawn off from there. In the other rooms of a sauna establishment bad air is heated and rises and must be drawn from under the roof.

Only when the ventilation system in a sauna is sufficient will the bath be able to produce its good effect without limitations.

Werner Fritzsche

(Handelsblatt, 29 January 1971)

Restaurants criticised

Men grumble much more frequently in pubs and restaurants than women when things do not please them, according to a survey commissioned by hoteliers and restaurateurs.

The main cause of complaint is that the men are served with dishes they did not order.

The revelations made in the survey were described as "alarming".

More than 2,000 persons were asked about their latest visit to a cafe or restaurant. Forty two per cent of the men and 34 per cent of the women were not satisfied with the attention they had been offered.

The statistics show that there has been little or no decline in the percentage of people who are unhappy with cafe and restaurant service.

Only in two Federal States have the statistics changed to any appreciable extent, in North Rhine-Westphalia from 47 to 37 per cent and in Bavaria an increase from 37 to 45 per cent.

Almost two thirds of the people questioned about the dissatisfaction at eating out complained about unfriendly service.

(Hannoversche Presse, 21 January 1971)

NEWS IN BRIE

C'est si Bonn

Open house in Bonn attracted 3 people from the Federal capita the Rathaus (town hall). They filled questionnaires compiled by the authorities.

The result of this survey was rece published. One delighted "surveyee" a ed: "Bonn is the most beautiful tow the whole world."

Others moaned: "This place is just take... and you only get half-full glasses."

One of the main criticisms was of public transport system in the town, complaints that it was inadequate, s fluous and ... unconstitutional(?).

Town planning also came in for ticism. The gigantic government build were described as disgraceful.

But Bonn also came in for some pr "The students are so good-natured" "Bonn is a classy town." However, of the answers showed nothing sho pent-up rage. The old-established cit of Bonn were described by one sur as "petty bourgeois, *rheinisch*, frustrated and useless for the purpo revolution".

Another urged the city authoriti "send Schiller to Hell and Möller him!" One female visitor who took in the survey, on the other hand, wa the whole Christian Democratic U burnt at the stake.

Separatism is rife there, too. participant said the only good about Bonn was Bad Godesberg. Anot could see no good in the Federal cap except for "Willy".

(VORWÄRTS, 14 January 19

Domesticatedme

Husbands in this country seem alw ready to help according to Allensbach Institute for public opi research.

Seventy five per cent of husband this country help around the h Twenty-six per cent often do the wa up and 40 per cent help occasion Other husbands specialise in va cleaning, cooking and cleaning window And 84 per cent of wives in the Federal Republic say they are very pleased with this home help.

Ten years ago only three out of fo women *wanted* their husbands to he around the house.

But with modern ideas of equality many women now going out to work man's help around the house is becomi invaluable.

Helpful husbands are not evenly d tributed throughout the country. Bava seems to be the slowest state to join th trend. Only 57 per cent of Bavarian me admit to helping with the washing up.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 30 January 19

Sign of the times

Horse-drawn brewers drays will soo be a thing of the past in Munich The colourful drays drawn by four stro horses are on the way out and Löwenbr is the next to last brewer to send horses, fourteen of them, out of the cit

The reason is that it is feared that th horses will be made sick by car exhaus In addition to this the horses are n longer able to keep up with moder traffic and are getting in the way of ca

The horses will now only be brough into the centre of Munich during the *Oktoberfest* and on other special oc casions and for the rest of the time wil do light work in the country.

(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 29 January 1971)

■ LEISURE

Sport has its problems of U and Non-U

As the Munich Olympics draw nearer increasing envy of the sporting super-prowess of the GDR and to some extent of the Eastern Bloc in general is becoming apparent in this country.

General dissatisfaction has led to frequent comparison of the two systems and one of the conclusions reached is that discrimination against certain groups of athletes, particularly as regards women, is a major drawback here.

In the Eastern Bloc all disciplines are equal, being assessed for furtherance according to strictly rational political motives.

Disciplines that cannot boast world-beaters, Alpine skiing, basketball and fencing in the GDR at present, for instance, may be temporarily kept to a tight financial rein but only because the country's financial resources are not unlimited.

The funds that are available must thus be ploughed into the most promising disciplines. The investment is, after all, expected to pay dividends in the form of medals.

As long as the medals are forthcoming it does not matter what the discipline is. There is no prejudice, least of all on emotional grounds.

In this country, on the other hand, and in sport in the West in general, there is a mosaic of carefully differentiated prejudices and value judgements.

These prejudices are formed by public opinion, intolerant philistinism and pride of place. Boxing, wrestling and weight-lifting, for instance, are dismissed as crude sports suitable for the sons of toil.

The inevitable corollary is that a promising young wrestler from a family with some pretension to social standing is either persuaded to give it up or forbidden to wrestle by his parents. Maybe he is put off by everyone he knows being against the idea. Either that or it never occurs to him in the first place.

Posh people wouldn't be seen dead wrestling. Students don't box or wrestle either. As they used to say in the Kaiser's day, "That's no sport for a University man."

The same is true of many other disciplines that are discriminated against in the bourgeois society we live in. Cycling has none too good a reputation ("dull pedalling") whereas gymnastics is the sort of sport "one goes in for."

Rowing is also a posh sport, unlike canoeing. A sample of oarsmen and canoeists would probably bear out the general assumption that students row whereas working men and "damnfool loners" canoe.

Rowing is "in". One thinks in terms of the Oxford v. Cambridge boat race and this country keeps its fingers crossed for the eights crew from Ratzeburg that has so successfully represented the Federal Republic on many occasions.

Then there are the special disciplines for the real upper crust. Ice-skating is the "in" thing, nice to watch, no nasty sweat and Rainer Barzel of the Christian Democrats goes in for it. Fencing is also rather smart and basketball sounds so university-orientated with all those English terms.

Yachting is top-notch anyway. It is even more exclusive than tennis, only being outployed by equestrianism, the various categories of which also vary in social standing.

Military riding is something for the better class of well-to-do farmer. Show-jumping is something for a rather better class of people. Best of all, though, is dressage, an exclusive discipline that costs rather more than a few thousand Marks a month.

Dressage is a sport in which only a few privileged people all over the world indulge. They are a far cry from being the world's youth.

Even finer distinctions can be drawn. In track and field athletics the degree of discrimination increases in proportion to the distance covered or the weight of the missile thrown.

The marathon, walking and the 10,000 metres are the sort of thing best left to the eccentric and the prole. The 110 metres hurdles and the sprint events on the other hand are felt to be rather chic and a great many students run them.

The discus is classier than the shot and the jumping events are of course a cut above the throwing ones.

So it is that sport in this country humps around a heavy burden of status thinking, the vestiges of an almost comic tradition, the ballast of big bourgeoisie.

A sporting system such as the GDR's in which optimum development of individual talent for the political good of the state is thus superior from the word go.

In a number of disciplines the superiority of the Eastern Bloc (and in some measure of the Third World too) is a direct result of the discrimination against them in the West.

What has been said so far applies in equal measure to women's sport. According to the philosophy of sport current in this country "the man's task is to do something in life, the woman's to be something, particularly in dancing and gymnastics."

This fake quotation modelled on Ortega y Gasset may sound hollow but sports officials often enough come out with something of this kind in moments of obscure profundity.

This sort of thing is unknown in socialist society, impossible in a society in which there are almost as many women as men doctors, as many women as men qualified in mechanical engineering, not to mention female pilots and cosmonauts.

Man's imagination has run riot in fabricating prejudices and rumours such as "running gives you calves and thighs like a carthorse's" and "medium-distance running boosts a girl's number of male hormones," all of which are and have been proved to be arrant nonsense.

This country's three best middle-distance girls at the moment, Hildegard Falck, née Janze, Ellen Tittel and Christa Merten, all have above-average good looks and do nothing if not cut a fine figure for their discipline.

When women do achieve sporting success in the West they have often enough run the gauntlet of a really malevolent collection of prejudices.

These old wives' tales also ring hollow when one recalls the good looks and figures of any number of women specialists in the throwing events – Angela Nemeth, Eva Janko, Judith Bognar, Olga Connolly, née Fikotova, and Eva Jawarska.



Boxing – no sport for those with weak stomachs

The amount of muscle a field athlete has to use nowadays is for that matter no more than women used to have employ all day and every day in agriculture (and in some parts still do).

It is, incidentally, typical that in the man-orientated society in which we live women are particularly popular in disciplines where they tickle a man's fancy. They play tennis in diminutive skirts and go through their paces in gymnastics and ice-skating in even more diminutive costumes.

*The recent debate about women's foot*ball proved once again how difficult it is to bring about a change of opinion in the society in which we live. In principle there is not a single sporting discipline that women could not try their hand at – and anyone who disagrees can be disproved in practice.

The sporting press plays a major role in discriminating against women trying their hand at particular sports.

Fashionable disciplines are usually given better and more extensive coverage than those below the salt and a number of sports have had to resign themselves to the fact that sports reporters too are prejudiced.

Pariahs such as walkers, marathon runners, weight-lifters, women adepts in the throwing events and women footballers are in many instances a mere laughing stock.

There are no such problems as this in the Eastern Bloc. When the GDR team marches on to the field at Munich it will be able to afford to laugh – at the ballast of bourgeois prejudices held by its opporsite numbers in this country.

Brigitte Berendonk & Eva Franke-Dönhoff

(CHRIST UND WELT, 5 February 1971)

Marika Kilius and Jürgen Bäumler on ice – a sport for posh people!

(Photos: Nordbild)

Aden	SA $ 0.05
Afghanistan	Af 10.—
Algeria	DA 0.60
Angola	Esc. 1.—
Argentina	$ m n 45.—
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Chile	Esc. 0.60
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Denmark	dkr 0.90
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Fiji	11 d
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Formosa	NT $ 5.—
France	FF 0.60
Gabon	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Gambia	11 d
Germany	DM 1.—
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Great Britain	11 d
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Guatemala	Q 0.15
Guayana	BWI $ 0.20
Guinea	F.G. 30.—
Haiti	G 0.65
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Honduras	L 0.25
Hong Kong	HK $ 0.70
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Iceland	Kr 5.—
India	Rs 0.60
Indonesia	Rp. 15.—
Iran	RI 10.—
Iraq	50 fils
Ireland	11 d
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Jamaica	11 d
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Jordan	50 fils
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Malawi	11 d
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Mexico	$ 1.50
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New Zealand	9 c.
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Niger	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Nigeria	11 d
Norway	nkr 0.90
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Panama	B. 0.15
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UAR	PT 5.—
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USA	$ 0.20
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